







value for lead only. If it were situated in Cornwall, the only contest would be who should have it. Of course the presence of gold enhances that value, and it is yet much to soon to conclude that it also cannot be rendered a most valuable product.

The operations for lead will open up the mine; continual assays will discover where the gold is and where it is not. In some places it will be found rich enough in gold to be banded over to the smelters at once, at others some concentrating process must be employed; and the company will be in a position to take advantage of the experience obtained at other and neighbouring gold mines.

The CHAIRMAN moved that the report be received and adopted, which was seconded by Mr. THOMAS, and carried unanimously.

Mr. FREEMAN wished to know whether a copy of the report would be sent to each shareholder. The CHAIRMAN observed that the representative of the Mining Journal was present, and he had no doubt that full publicity would be given to their proceedings.

A SHAREHOLDER wished to know whether, in the event of the 1s. per share being raised to carry on the mine for lead, it would not also be necessary to obtain sufficient capital to pay Mr. Bruin, the owner of the mine, 18,000l. for the property?

The CHAIRMAN said, Mr. Bruin having elected to take money instead of shares, it would certainly be necessary to raise sufficient to pay him. If it had been successful as a gold mine, Mr. Bruin would have readily taken the shares. He knew that Mr. Readwin had been offered 35s. each for 1000 shares, and refused it, having such great confidence in the undertaking.

Mr. FREEMAN said he believed the proceedings had hitherto been conducted in the most straightforward manner.

The CHAIRMAN said, as a proof of the value of the mine for lead, Mr. Thorne had taken 1000 shares, and considered it the most remarkable property he had ever seen.

Mr. FREEMAN wished to know if any estimate had been made as to the probable expense required for working the mine for lead?

The CHAIRMAN replied that about 1500l. was necessary to work it.

Mr. THOMAS said that, at a depth of 20 fms., the lode produced 3 tons per fm., and had since improved very considerably in going down.

The CHAIRMAN said there was no doubt but that, with a moderate capital, sufficient would be raised immediately to pay the working expenses. Mr. Harris, of the Clogau Mine, was present, and would give them some information on the property.

Mr. HARRIS said he should be happy to give them every assistance in his power. He was acquainted with any shareholder in the Cwmbeian Company; but visited their property to make himself master of the manner in which they were working their machinery; and taking it altogether, they had minerals sufficient to employ 500 men, and with a small outlay he was satisfied large returns could be obtained.

With respect to gold, he believed it was there, and was of opinion it could be worked at a considerable profit; but there was no doubt about the value of the lead lode, which was proved to be rich for silver. They had a good smelting-house and crushing apparatus, which could be put in working order at a small expense, and by hiring one of Medwin and Hall's steam-engines, they could commence operations immediately. Mr. Harris then read the following letter, which he had addressed to the chairman:—

1, Moorgate, London Wall, Aug. 5.—Having for some weeks passed been experimenting upon the celebrated Clogau gold lode, and being desirous of obtaining all the information possible as to the description of quartz, and mode of working, in the immediate neighbourhood, I waited upon Mr. Lynch, who gave me every information, and assisted me to inspect the Cwmbeian property. I was surprised and gratified at the width and extent of the veins of quartz, and from their appearance, believe them to be gold-bearing, independent of which there is a most valuable and extensive lead lode: from the quality of the ore, some of which is now at grass, I am certain if worked would realise a large profit. I estimate the cost of putting it into full operation at 1500l. I believe the Cwmbeian proprietors are possessed (independent of gold) of a mineral property of great value. In respect to your wish for me to suggest the best mode to be adopted to work the gold lode, I would say in the first place ascertain beyond doubt that you have gold, and in sufficient quantities to pay for working. Secondly, see that the machines you have now on the mine (Berdan's), are in proper order, and that the balls fit the curvature of the pans, without which they will not work satisfactorily; having superintended the working of the pans at the Clogau Works, I found the fault lay in the size of the balls, although I have obtained upwards of 2 tons of amalgam by the leather, independent of a considerable quantity of gold by distillation from 30 cwts. of quartz by them. I have called them harsh names, but now think, that with some little alteration and with using hot water, they can be profitably worked. I cannot compress into a letter full particulars of the results of my experiments, and the best method at present known of extracting gold. I would suggest the necessity of having complete assays of the quartz from different parts of the lode, not only to ascertain the quantity of gold, but also the arsenic and sulphur, as they must be got rid of by calcination. The capricious character and quantity of gold in the rocks will always render such assays of great importance. The extraction of the precious metals is a chemical operation, gold in the same mine is found in different conditions, and without chemical superintendence a great loss will ensue, and gold mining must fail. I shall be happy at all times to render gold mining in England every assistance in my power.—J. HARRIS.

The CHAIRMAN considered the best course to be adopted would be to adjourn the meeting for a fortnight, and call upon the shareholders to declare whether they desire to go on or relinquish their shares, as, if they went beyond that time, they must pay a portion of the liabilities incurred.

The Hon. Mr. HOWARD thought they had better state a sufficient amount required to effectually work the property.

Mr. THOMAS was of opinion they ought to raise 5000l.

Mr. HOWARD said he should be happy to go on if they would put the gold question aside, and work the mine for lead.

Mr. LOW said he visited the mine, and from what he saw as regarded lead, it presented a most magnificent appearance, and with their appliances it would be an act of folly to give it up, as there was no doubt as to the quantity of lead; and whilst they were getting that, if any portion contained gold let them treat it for gold.

Mr. THOMAS then proposed the following resolution:—That it is the opinion of this meeting that the property of the company should be worked as a lead mine, and that the question of gold, although not to be neglected, should be treated merely as a secondary matter.

The Hon. Mr. HOWARD seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

Mr. HARRIS hoped they would not lose sight of the gold question. He was getting at the present time out of the Clogau Mine, by Berdan's machine, 4 cwt. per ton, and he did not think those machines had yet been fairly tested.

After some discussion, it was agreed to adjourn the meeting for a fortnight, and a vote of thanks to the chairman terminated the proceedings.

#### GREAT POLGOOTH MINING COMPANY.

A general meeting of proprietors was held at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate, Mr. P. D. HADLOW in the chair.

The notice convening the meeting having been read, the accounts were submitted, and showed cash balance at bankers 455l. 13s. 11d. The report of the directors was also read, which stated that every exertion had been made in the prosecution of the works. The new eastern shaft had been sunk to the 106, and the lode was proving richer than expected.

The CHAIRMAN said that the reports read, with the accounts, so fully set forth the proceedings of the company since he last had the pleasure of attending the shareholders' meeting, that it was quite unnecessary for him to enter into any lengthened observations. The progress that had been made since December last had borne out the report of the mining captains, and showed that they had advanced as far as they expected. The amount of expenditure was certainly less satisfactory than the progress which had been made, but this had arisen from circumstances over which the committee had no control, as the working materials of mines had greatly increased in price during the last twelve months. The accounts read fully set forth the financial position of the company, and the report of the committee very truly stated that not more money than was absolutely necessary had been expended. In conclusion, he begged to observe that Capt. Puckey was present, and would be happy to offer any explanation, and afford any information, that might be required of him. Before he sat down he must observe that the expenses would exceed the returns for the next six months, and if money were not found they would be obliged to give up the mine.

A PROPRIETOR: What will be the expenses for that period?

The CHAIRMAN said they would not exceed 6000l. per month. He then moved the adoption of the report and accounts.

The motion having been seconded and carried unanimously, several of the proprietors spoke highly of the able management of the committee, and expressed a strong opinion that some resolution should be passed in reference to those who had not paid up their calls.

It was then, after a short discussion, proposed that a special general meeting should be called for Saturday next, to empower the committee to dispose of the shares originally represented by scrip certificates.

Capt. PUCKEY, in answer to some of the shareholders, said his opinion was, from a careful examination, that they had a very fair legitimate mine. They had opened new ground, and the work was going on very satisfactorily.

A cordial vote of thanks to the chairman and committee, and a similar compliment to the auditors, terminated the proceedings.

#### TAMAR MARIA MINING COMPANY.

A meeting of shareholders was held at the offices of the company, Royal Exchange, on Saturday, Mr. S. WATKIN in the chair.

The notice convening the meeting having been read, the secretary (Mr. Balcombe) submitted the following report:—

There is no special feature, in the opinion of your committee, which requires particular notice; the Mining Journal, as the only medium of information available to the shareholders generally, is supplied from time to time with the reports from the mine, and the steady progress of the work is therein apparent. The work is confined, as you are aware, to the drainage of the adit level on the cross-course, which level is now extended 71 fms., and from the opinion of the agent, confirmed by Capt. Jonathan Davey, the committee learn that the No. 3 lode has not yet been intersected, but that it is still, from its underlie and dip, about 2 fathoms ahead. No. 4 lode, from which so much is expected (being fully opened upon and known as Wheel Thomas in Devon Great Consols), has been successfully opened in an intermediate piece of ground, worked by a set of adventurers under the title of the Latchley Consols, and is yielding good copper ore at a depth of 20 fms. from surface; consequently it is only reasonable to suppose that its intersection by our deep adit at a depth of 35 fms. from surface, the adventurers of Tamar Maria will reap a profitable return for their outlay. The committee have been reluctant to carry out the instructions of the last meeting as to the sale of the forfeited shares, open for redemption until the 15th July last, as this meeting was so close at hand; but they regret that the holders of the old scrip still resolutely set at defiance the conversion agreed upon at the special general meetings in Jan. and Feb. last, and some correspondence has taken place between Mr. Balcombe and Messrs. Hesp and Upson, solicitors, for certain holders resident in Scarborough, that correspondence will be read to this meeting, and such further steps will be taken by you as may appear most advisable.

A section of the ground and a report by Capt. Jonathan Davey is on the table, by which the weekly reports of the agent will be more easily understood. The last report from the agent is appended.

AGENT'S REPORT.

The adit level is extended now 71 fms., with tram road complete, 4 fms. 3 ft. 3 in. of which were driven in July month; it is now being driven with all possible speed, at 6l. 10s. per fm. According to Capt. Davey's dialling, we have about 11 or 12 fms. further to drive to reach No. 4 lode, which I suppose we can reach without the aid of an air machine; but as I feel confident that the lode, when intersected, will prove productive, I would recommend sinking an engine-shaft, in order to ventilate the mine, and enable us to work it effectively below this point. I would also recommend the erection of smith's shop and storehouse, the foundation for which is already

cleared out, and sufficient stone raised for the purpose, a plan and estimate for which I will forward to you if desired.

Submitted is the balance-sheet to 5th of August:—

Cash in hand ..... £254 5 6

Miner cost April, May, June ..... £91 3 11

Secretary and office expenses ..... 10 5 0

Merchants' accounts and sundries ..... 12 13 6 = £127 1 5

Leaving balance in favour of adventurers ..... £157 3 1

The liabilities and assets showed a balance in favour of the latter of 407l. 7s. 7d., in addition to 1600 unissued shares.

The SECRETARY, in answer to a shareholder, said there seemed to be no doubt of profitable results; but the shareholders should pay their arrears, so that the committee of management might proceed to develop the mine with more energy. There could be no doubt the committee had the option of disposing of these shares by auction, but they were desirous of giving defaulters an opportunity of paying their arrears rather than selling their shares.

A SHAREHOLDER asked the secretary if he thought the committee would refuse to accept payment for the forfeited shares if the money was tendered during the present month?

The SECRETARY said there was no disposition to cancel or sell the shares, and he had no doubt if parties showed a desire to proceed with the undertaking by the payment of their arrears the shares would be restored. They had 1600 shares unissued, and 990 forfeited. He was himself the holder of 1000 shares, and he must say that he thought it extremely unfair that he and others were compelled to keep up the mine for the benefit of defaulters, who, if the mine became prosperous, would endeavour to come in and reap the harvest. In reply to further questions the secretary said they expected in the course of a few fathoms to get into a very rich course of ore, and the fact of their being within a few fathoms of Wheel Thomas lode, which was one of considerable importance.

After some discussion, the question of the unconverted shares was left for decision to the committee of management, and a vote of thanks to the chairman closed the proceedings.

#### THE KENMARE AND WEST OF IRELAND COPPER AND SILVER-LEAD MINING COMPANY.

A meeting of shareholders was held at the office, Moorgate-street, yesterday, Mr. G. T. DEANE in the chair.

The SECRETARY read the notice convening the meeting, and the following report of the directors:—

During the last half-year, there have been sunk, driven, and stopped, the following quantities, at the following cost:—

Sunk ..... 18 0 6 at a cost of £ 79 4 1

Driven ..... 62 0 1 " " 328 12 9

Stopped ..... 300 3 8 " " 476 13 6

The average is about 21 2s. per fathom.

The quantity of ore stated by Captain William Thomas to have been put to pile in the following months was:—

January ..... 35 tons, of which the dressing cost was £ 23 1 11

February ..... 12 tons, " " 21 0 7

March ..... 12 tons, " " 21 0 7

April ..... none, " " 21 0 7

May ..... none, " " 21 0 7

These returns appearing to be so small, and the dressing charges so large and varying so little, whether the quantity was great or small, your directors being in other respects much dissatisfied and disappointed with the working of the mine, entered into a thorough investigation of the affairs of the company. They regret to say this enquiry led to the conclusion that the mines had been mismanaged, and that the accounts rendered from time to time were not to be depended upon, and the board, consequently, determined upon the immediate dismissal of Capt. Thomas.

The mines were accordingly placed in charge of the late underground agent, Mr. Wasley, under the superintendence of Captain Skimming, a gentleman in whom the directors have every confidence, and who proceeded to Ireland, accompanied by Mr. East and Mr. McCallan, two of your directors, by whom all necessary arrangements were made, consequent upon the dismissal of Captain Thomas.

Capt. Thomas threatens an action for breach of his engagement by the directors, who intend to defend it, leaving him to justify his conduct if he can.

Irrespective of the threatened proceedings of Capt. Thomas, his conduct since dismissal has not raised his character in the estimation of the directors.

Although working under most disadvantageous circumstances, Captain Skimming put to pile in

June, 39 tons of ore, the dressing cost of which was £ 26 7 5

July, 40 " " " " 34 2 9

and the setting for August, it is believed, will produce 50 tons.

The works in course of erection at the last general meeting have been completed, and answers to the purposes required.

The mine is now thoroughly drained, and with the present machinery can be sunk and worked to upwards of one hundred fathoms.

The report of Capt. Skimming will put the shareholders in possession of some most important facts connected with the mines, both present and prospective; and your directors beg particular attention to it, believing that it may be depended upon, and that in its result it will be fully realised.

During the last half-year the sum of 2355l. 19s. 10d. has been expended upon the mine, of which 1730l. 18s. 1d. is chargeable to capital, and 625l. 1s. 9d. to revenue; but in future, as the directors believe that the mine will afford it, they intend to charge all outgoings to revenue.

The receipts up to the 30th June, have been 835l. 8s. 2d., the produce of the sale of 211 tons of ore, and 71 16s. 4d. from profit on stores.

In addition to the ore sold during the half-year, there was on 30th June 65 tons of ore upon the mine ready for market, and this quantity has been increased during the month of July to 103 tons, for which a vessel is being chartered.

The directors cannot conclude without expressing their regret that the workings of the mine had not been more satisfactory, and they cannot furnish a more pleasing statement of the profits of the last half-year; but believing that the mines will now be judiciously worked, they trust at the next meeting to be enabled to report the stability of the property, and the success of the undertaking.

The following report of Capt. James Skimming was then read:—

On Wednesday, the 2d instant, Capt. Wasley and I made the usual survey of the Kenmare Mines, and set the setting for the month of August. I beg to submit the following statement for the information of the shareholders at the general meeting:—

The directors are aware that during the last two months difficulties of a peculiar and painful nature had to be contended with, and it required the greatest amount of perseverance in order to be able to continue the work at all. Nevertheless, I am glad to say that these difficulties are all now overcome; the mine is making steady progress, and is now in a more healthy position than it has been at any period since its commencement.

Since the last general meeting, very little has been done for the development of the mine in depth, but there were great difficulties in the application of the present shaft to that purpose. Nor have the deeper levels been extended to any great distance from the shaft, owing to re-arrangement of the pumping machinery. So much of the lode as has been opened on in the 66, has shown decided symptoms of improvement, and the future returns and prospects of the mine being, in my opinion, dependent upon the rapidity with which the shafts are sunk and levels opened, every possible exertion has been made during the past two months, the result of which is, that the pitwork has at last been got to the bottom, and the shaft is now hauling stuff from the 66. Croker's shaft is down 1 fm. under the 66, and is in full course of sinking with all possible speed by nine men. There is a difficulty existing in the operation department, a one-horse whim not being sufficient to keep the mine clear of stuff. We are trying to remedy this by sinking a new shaft from surface. This shaft is going down on the lode in easy ground, and if continued for three months, will provide for and relieve, by the use of another whim, all the levels from the 36 upwards. I beg, however, to submit that it will be requisite eventually to apply a small steam-engine to the hauling; but this may not be advisable during the next six months, or at all events, until the mine is further developed in depth.

The returns of ore for the past two months have been about 160 tons. I believe the ore will be less valuable than the average produce, in consequence of none of the better class of ore, as the bottom stopes being broken in with it. These stopes being all in work this month, I anticipate an improvement on the next parcel equal to the average of former sales. There is still a large quantity of ground in reserve that will keep up returns for some time to come. These reserves will be greatly increased when the 46 is communicated with Nos. 12 and 13 winzes eastward. This level is at present producing very good ore in the end, but it will yet take some time to communicate.

I therefore do not think it would be prudent to calculate on more than 60 tons of ore per month, until this object has been accomplished, and more ground opened in depth. We may, however, have an additional small parcel of inferior ore monthly, only existing in the operation department, a one-horse whim not being sufficient to keep the mine clear of stuff. We are trying to remedy this by sinking a new shaft from surface. This shaft is going down on the lode in easy ground, and if continued for three months, will provide for and relieve, by the use of another whim, all the levels from the 36 upwards. I beg, however, to submit that it will be requisite eventually to apply a small steam-engine to the hauling; but this may not be advisable during the next six months, or at all events, until the mine is further developed in depth.

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the directors be empowered to wind up the affairs of the present company under the 5th clause of the Deed of Settlement.

The resolutions were seconded, and carried unanimously.

The Chairman said that the new company would not be formed unless a sum equal to £10,000, be subscribed. The 2s. 6d. would be kept to the credit of those who joined the new company, but would be returned to those who objected.

Mr. Towse moved a vote of thanks to the chairman and directors, which was carried unanimously, and the meeting separated.

#### AUSTRALIAN CONSOLS MINING COMPANY.

A meeting of shareholders was held at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, on Wednesday, Col. Cooper in the chair.

The Chairman said they met to-day pursuant to an adjournment from the 19th of July. The committee met the shareholders now as they did on the last occasion. Having no further information to lay before them, beyond the fact that since that meeting five gentlemen, constituting the committee of investigation, had conferred with the committee of management; and they had come to the determination that the most sensible thing that could be done was to call a meeting, and lay matters before it. He hoped the committee would then be able to lay before the meeting some important information, which, he regretted to say, they were unable to do now.

Mr. LINDO said he had very great pleasure in confirming what the chairman had stated. The committee had been receiving with great courtesy, and the directors had been taking into consideration the matters brought before them. The Chairman observed that the meeting was of great value to the committee as well as to the shareholders. He assured the proprietors that the committee wished for such a meeting quite as much as any one present, and would call it the first opportunity; but before they did so they were desirous of obtaining certain information from their agent in Australia, who would supply them with plans and maps of their property, which the committee were waiting for.

A DIRECTOR hoped that he might be allowed to make an observation or two, as he understood it was considered desirable that the committee of management should be strengthened. That was an opinion in which the directors fully concurred, and it was their intention, at the earliest time possible, to call a special meeting of the shareholders. Whatever was done to-day would come before the committee of management, and would receive every possible attention. It would be for that meeting to decide upon whatever resolution was proposed to-day; but he should not feel justified in voting, nor would he vote upon any resolution submitted on the present occasion.

Mr. LINDO was about to put the resolution, when Mr. GURDALL enquired if he had filled up the date? He did not wish to call it, but in the present state of things it was right they should come to a definite understanding upon the subject. There was a great deal of matter before them, and he really could not see that they ought to suspend their enquiry till the arrival of information from Australia.

The Chairman observed that Mr. Gurdall, if he were a shareholder, could see the books of the company at any time; they were open at all reasonable hours.

A SHAREHOLDER enquired if there had been no accounts rendered?

The Chairman replied in the affirmative, and that they were at the office, open to the inspection of every shareholder. It would prevent a great deal of misunderstanding if parties would bear this in mind; and with part of the present before them, such statements as had been made were calculated to do the property considerable injury. Mr. GURDALL had no desire or intention to injure the property, but it was only fair that financial statements be laid before the meeting at least twice a year. He could say for himself, as a proof of his desire to see things go on prosperously, that he was increasing his stock daily, well knowing that it would turn out well. He did not sign, because he was advised not to sign; but the fact was, the directors spoke in the guarded language of a Queen's Speech, and if they would condescend to explain matters more fully, the shares in this company would not be at the price they were at the present time.

Mr. ROGERS said he thought Mr. Gurdall had somewhat encroached upon the meeting. He (Mr. Rogers) had hoped that the days of talking had ended, and the day of business began. He was quite willing—and he was a shareholder, and believed the majority of shareholders were willing—to take the chairman's word, that as soon as information arrived from Australia it should be laid before the shareholders. It was no use having public meetings to do nothing—that was a waste of money. He would, therefore, suggest that it be left to the chairman and committee to call a meeting as soon as practicable, after they were in receipt of further information.

The Chairman said that he was not at all disposed to object to the directors did not do so with very good intentions, but he thought it very injudicious. He did not, however, say so with the view of giving offence to any party.

Mr. LINDO differed from the chairman: he thought the opposition had been of considerable benefit, and that the meetings had strengthened the confidence of the public in the undertaking—an attainment which was worth purchasing at the price of these meetings. (Hear.)

After some conversational discussion, it was moved by Mr. LINDO that the meeting adjourn, and that a special general meeting of shareholders be held at the London Tavern at an early date, for the purpose of considering and determining upon alterations and amendments of rules and regulations of the company, which will be submitted to the meeting, for electing additional members, and transacting such other business as the meeting may deem advisable; and Mr. GILLAN said he had the pleasing task of moving a vote of thanks to the chairman and committee, and to Mr. Lindo and the committee of investigation, when the proceedings, which were conducted throughout in the most cordial manner, terminated.

#### SCOTTISH AUSTRALIAN INVESTMENT COMPANY.

A special general meeting of shareholders of this company was held, on Tuesday, at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street.

Mr. WILLIAM H. DICKSON in the chair.

Mr. CHAIRMAN, the secretary, having stated that there was a larger number of the proprietors, either present or represented by proxies, at the meeting, than was requisite by the deed of co-partnership, for the object for which they were assembled, and having read the notice convening the meeting,

The Chairman said the present meeting was special, and called for the purpose of considering the propriety of increasing the capital stock of the company. Their manager had been successful in making investments in the colony, and from the very commencement of the company's career up to the present time, they could render in handsome dividends received. They had been applied to by the manager in urgent terms to have increased pecuniary facilities placed at his disposal, believing he could very profitably use them. The original capital of the company, when it was established in 1840, was only £70,000, and that was increased to £100,000; but the board of directors have now come to the opinion that a much larger capital could be employed to greater advantage, and all the more so, as there would not be increased expenditure resulting from the employment of further funds. The manager, besides the several mineral properties which he had acquired for the company, had recently made various investments of an unproductive character at present, such as land for building, and in immediately surrounding Sydney, of which he thought very highly, and which in a short time could not fail to be very advantageous. The application to which he had referred, on the part of the manager, had for some time past occupied the serious consideration of the board of directors. They found that money could now be lent in the colony on good mortgage security at from 10 to 12 per cent.; they also found that the manager could obtain a premium of 5 per cent. on his drafts on London, though, of course, these were only branches of the company's operations. Under these circumstances it was that the directors thought it right to set the shareholders to create the additional stock proposed in their recent report. Since, however, they had recommended the creation of the new stock, which it was proposed to issue at a premium, some doubts had arisen as to the propriety of their so doing; but their object in recommending that a premium should be paid had been to protect the old shareholders. They had a most valuable property, and a large reserve fund; and they did not think it right to let persons who might purchase new stock—and so being entirely new holders—come in and participate in these advantages without making some arrangement to meet the cases, and the proposal to give off the new stock at a premium was designed partially to do so. But, upon examining the deed of co-partnership, it appeared that there might be some difficulty as to the application of the premium—at all events, the clause in the contract was not so clear upon the point as could be desired; and they had, therefore, come to the conclusion that it was better to issue the stock, as the shareholders themselves were to get it, *et par*. (Cheers.) He was glad to find that the general body of shareholders was very strongly in favour of the creation of additional capital, as he held in his hand proxies representing 50,000 shares in favour of the measure, in addition to the large meeting of the shareholders then present, showing that it was a very popular measure, and not very likely that the new shares would soon pass from the hands of the subscribers. The chairman concluded by moving the following resolution—viz., "That the original capital stock of the Scottish Australian Investment Company, of £100,000, sterling, be, and hereby is, increased by the creation of 100,000 new shares of £1 sterling each. That the said new shares shall be issued at par, and offered, in the first instance, to the present registered shareholders of the company, in an equal ratio to the number which they respectively now hold of the original stock. That a first instalment of 5s. per share shall be payable on all such new shares, on the 1st day of September next. That not less than three months' notice shall be given previous to payment of any further instalment; that no call shall exceed in amount the sum of 5s. per share; and that an interval of at least three months shall elapse between each call. That the said new shares shall, in the first instance, be issued as scrip shares, and the holders of said scrip be entitled to participate, to the extent and in proportion to the instalments paid thereon, in the profits, reserved fund, and all other advantages of the company, from 31st December, 1854; so that the first half-year's dividend on said new shares will be payable in August, 1855, on the instalment then paid. And that the directors of the company be, and hereby are, fully authorised and empowered to give effect to this resolution."

Mr. STROGAN, in seconding the resolution, said he represented a large body of shareholders in Scotland, and the only point on which they had any objection to offer, in the recent report of the directors, was the recommendation that the proposed new stock should be issued to the present shareholders at a premium: in every other respect they were highly satisfied with and approved of it. They were, indeed, unanimous in their opinion as to the advantage of increasing the capital; and he (Mr. Strogan), who had long been a pretty large and steady holder of the stock, did not hesitate to express his opinion, with confidence, that if Mr. Morehead, their manager in Australia, had more funds, they would be invested to their benefit. The directors had done well in calling this meeting, and proposing the resolution they had done; and he was certain the shareholders would to a man most readily take their new stock, and pay upon it. The shares had been at 3s. 10s. a share before now, and the only shares, he believed, he had ever parted with, had been 100 at that price to a gentleman who had requested him to let him have them; and—especially when the mineral properties of the company came to be turned to account—he did not by any means despair of soon seeing them at the same figure again. He should not longer detain the meeting, but conclude by cordially seconding the resolution.

After a lengthy discussion, the resolution was unanimously carried, amidst much applause.

The Chairman, in answer to a question by a shareholder, said that the first call would amount to 25,000; and at the present time they did not anticipate raising more than 50,000; although they took the power to increase the capital to the extent of £100,000. The reserved fund was applicable to dividends, should it be required for that purpose; but he hoped it would be kept entire until the mineral properties were developed, and then, perhaps, in one form or the other, it might find its way to the pockets of the shareholders.

After a cordial vote of thanks to the chairman and directors, the meeting separated.

A few days prior to the mail being dispatched, it was stated, in Sydney, that coal had been discovered at Hawkesbury, on the estate of the Rev. Mr. Therry. If this should be corroborated, situated as it is within an easy distance of the Australian metropolis, it is calculated that a profitable market would soon be found, which would be of great advantage to the producer and consumer.

#### EAST INDIA IRON COMPANY.

A meeting of shareholders was held yesterday, at the offices of the company, New Broad-street, Mr. R. WHELAN CHAIRMAN in the chair.

The Chairman observed, that as there were not a sufficient number of shareholders present to constitute a meeting, they could not come to any resolution; but if it was the wish of the meeting, the directors' report could be read, and he should be happy to afford any information in his power, if it was required.

In compliance with the wish of the shareholders present, the following report was submitted:—

Agreeably with the intimation made to the proprietors at the last general meeting, they have made a second call of 2s. 6d. per share; this call has been well responded to, and the conditions of the charter have been complied with.

The valuation of the works and property of the Indian Iron and Steel Company has been brought to a satisfactory conclusion. Mr. Beaumont's detailed report upon the general position and prospects of the undertaking has been completed; and the board hopes shortly to be in a position to express definitively an opinion as to the propriety of immediately concluding the negotiation for the purchase of the works and property of the old company, at the price named by the arbitrators, and entering at once upon active operations.

In the meantime, the old company have continued to carry on the works, and to do all in their power to place them in the most advantageous position for the proposed transfer to the new company. The apparatus for casting railway chairs referred to in the last report, and other skilled machinery, have been dispatched; and negotiations are in train for engaging useful Swedish workmen to proceed to the works, for the purpose of introducing the most improved methods practised in that country in the manufacture of the best qualities of charcoal iron.

At the date of the last report, the chief engineer to the Madras Railway Company was engaged with the Government authorities in selecting the site of the terminus on the western coast of India. The board have since learned, with great satisfaction, that the surveys of the first 50 miles of the line inland from that point is in progress, with the intention of the construction being at once proceeded with. This portion of the line not only traverses some of the forest districts from which the ironworks will draw their chief supplies of fuel, but will also open out easy communication with other important mineral fields of the company's works on the Malabar as well as the Coromandel coast.

Your directors cannot conclude this report without expressing their deep sense of the great loss which the company has sustained in the death of their respected chairman.

The Chairman said that, under other circumstances, it would have been his duty to move that the report be received and adopted; but as the meeting was not legally constituted, all that he could do was to offer a few remarks. And, first, he would refer to the last paragraph in the report, announcing the loss which the company had sustained in the death of their respected chairman. No one could regret the loss more sincerely than himself; but he was quite sure it must be a matter equally painful to the whole body of shareholders. It was stated in the report, that the valuation of the works and property of the Indian Iron and Steel Company had been proceeded with, and brought to a satisfactory conclusion. When the directors last met the shareholders at that board, they told them that these works had been estimated at 50,000. Since then, however, they had received an adjudication of this portion of the property, and this valuation of the plant, &c., was represented to have been reduced from 50,000, to 34,000. The report also stated that Mr. Beaumont's report upon the general position and prospects of the undertaking had been completed. It would, however, be quite premature for the board to express any opinion upon it at present, further than this, that the points had been very fully and ably discussed by Mr. Beaumont, and it would remain for the shareholders to determine whether or not they would go on with the undertaking. It would, no doubt, be satisfactory to the meeting to know that, out of 30,000, which constituted the preference shares, 14,000 had been paid upon. In connection with these shares he must state this, that a great many applications were made for them, but in consequence of a statement made in print by a discarded servant, the applicants became alarmed, and elected to forfeit their shares. The directors, however, had no doubt of the whole of the shares being readily taken up. Another important point alluded to in the report was, that the surveys of the first 50 miles of the line inland from that point is in progress, with the intention of the construction being at once proceeded with. They would have all that they required by means of this railway, with regard to the supply of fuel, &c., and would also be enabled to obtain articles of manufacture from India. The present proprietors were doing all in their power to present the property to the company in the most efficient state; and they had engaged parties to go out to India for the purpose of manufacturing the best quality of iron upon the most improved principle. The directors had the same object to serve as the shareholders, and the latter might safely rely upon the board taking such steps only that were calculated to benefit the interests of the company.

In reply to a shareholder, the Chairman said the directors would not go on unless they saw they had sufficient capital. They had now a paid-up capital of 75,000, and a further reserve of 70,000; but it would clearly not be worth their while to proceed if, upon mature consideration, they should be of opinion that the report of Mr. Beaumont was not conclusive as to the success of the undertaking.

Mr. E. STANBORN said he understood the chairman to say that not more than 14,000 out of 30,000 shares had been taken; was that so?

The Chairman said there were more taken, but not paid up; 14,000 were all they could depend upon.

Mr. HADGWAY said he had also understood the chairman to say that he had Mr. Beaumont's report. He thought it would be very satisfactory to the meeting to see it. The Chairman individually had no objection to produce the report, but he thought the matter would be better left in the hands of the directors. If it was the feeling of the shareholders generally to have a voice in the arrangement, the better way, perhaps, would be to call a special meeting.

Mr. HADGWAY thought the shareholders would not be likely to dissent from anything recommended by the directors, but still he felt that it would have been very satisfactory had the report of Mr. Beaumont been produced.

The Chairman said he felt himself under great responsibility, and should certainly not proceed in the matter without great caution. After some conversational discussion, Mr. HADGWAY moved a vote of thanks to the chairman and directors, which was carried unanimously, and the proceedings terminated.

#### PLATE GLASS INSURANCE COMPANY.

A general meeting of shareholders was held at the offices of the company, Lime-street, on Wednesday, Mr. J. HOLBORN in the chair.

The directors reported expressed their pleasure at meeting the proprietors, this being the opportunity of presenting a report of the company's operations from its complete registration, in 1852, to June 1854. During this period no less a number than 945 proposals had been made, and although it was originally intended to confine the business of the company to the metropolis, it had been found necessary to enlarge the basis of the undertaking, and to extend the guarantee of plate glass insurance to the provinces, as well as to Scotland and Ireland. The sanction of the proprietors to this step was given at a special meeting lately held, and it afforded the directors great satisfaction to state that so warmly had the proposal been received by the public, that in one week alone no less than 17,500 shares in the Plate Glass Insurance Company were subscribed for, and that the company would now assume the direction of affairs. The preliminary expenses, amounting to 1411. 19s. 10d., it was proposed should be carried over a period of six years, and in this sum was involved the necessary outlay in establishing 166 country agencies already possessed by the company, forming, as it was expected, the nucleus of a large future business.

The auditor's report stated that the profit standing to the credit of the account, and applicable to a dividend, was 6141. 11s. 8d., from which the directors recommended a dividend of 10 per cent. per annum, and the carrying of the balance to the reserve fund. The statement of the accounts showed that the company had a surplus, including 6141. 11s. 8d., surplus, of 22901. 2s. 4d., and on the credit side, including 5391. 15s. 6d., balance at bankers and in hand, a like amount.

The Chairman observed, that the present position of the company was exceedingly gratifying to the directors, and must, he thought, be equally so to the proprietors. The success of the undertaking had far exceeded their most sanguine expectations, and was rapidly increasing. There could not be a doubt as to its utility, or its permanent support. The facts set forth in the report fully confirmed that opinion; and as the accounts had been carefully audited, he had much pleasure in moving that the report be received and adopted.

The motion, having been seconded, was carried unanimously.

Mr. SMITH expressed his satisfaction with the management and progress of the company, and moved a resolution, which was seconded by Mr. WORCESTER, declaring a dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum, which was carried by acclamation.

Mr. SUNLEY said, that as this was the last occasion on which the Plate Glass Insurance Company would appear under its present title, as it would now merge into the Plate Glass Universal Insurance Company, he had much pleasure in congratulating the shareholders on having secured the valuable services of so able a managing director as Mr. Stephenson. That gentleman's exertions and abilities were so well appreciated, that he (Mr. Sunley) was satisfied every shareholder would agree with him, that that gentleman was entitled to their warmest thanks (applause). When the company first started, Mr. Stephenson had to encounter innumerable and almost insurmountable difficulties; but, by his unwearied exertions, he had overcome them all, and had achieved the success he so well deserved. He begged, therefore, to move a cordial vote of thanks to their able manager, Mr. Stephenson, for his zealous and valuable exertions in promoting the interests of the shareholders.

Mr. JONES seconded the proposition, which was carried unanimously.

Mr. STEPHENSON, in thanking the meeting for the honour conferred upon him, and observed that he had had, as Mr. Sunley had very truly stated, almost insurmountable difficulties to contend with; for, as they all knew, there was invariably a certain degree of apathy and caution among tradesmen, which almost amounted to prejudice, with regard to joining new companies. The benefits, however, conferred by this company soon became apparent, and had at length flown like wildfire from one to another, and all were now becoming anxious to join its advantages. Since its formation, they had received 945 proposals, and in one week no less than 17,500 shares were subscribed for by the public. His duties had been performed to the best of his ability; but they had of necessity been lightened by the services of his solicitor, Mr. Taylor, whom he now begged to thank for his kind assistance. In conclusion, he hoped to see the present shareholders participating in the advantages of the Plate Glass Universal Insurance Company, the success of which he thought was beyond a doubt. (Cheers.)—The thanks of the meeting were then passed to Mr. Taylor, which that gentleman acknowledged, and the proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to the chairman and directors.

GREAT BRIDGE IN CANADA.—A letter from Montreal, July 24, says—

"On Saturday the greatest engineering effort of modern times was commenced, under the most favourable auspices, the preparations for receiving the first stone of the Montreal Victoria Tubular Bridge—the connecting link between the Far West in the Atlantic seaboard—having been carried out with the most perfect success. In the midst of difficulties which no past experience could overcome, Mr. Hodges, the able manager of the works, has succeeded in demonstrating the practicability of the Canadian plan of the practicability of spanning, with an iron bridge, the mighty St. Lawrence River, an undertaking which, till very recently, was looked upon by them as being next to impossible."

On the Belgian Eastern Junction Railway, there is at the Arquennes quarries, a stupendous viaduct of wrought and cast-iron, upon piers of solid masonry which spans the deep valley, the eastern end of the viaduct being at an elevation of about 75 feet. It is a beautiful and most remarkable structure, containing only one-half the weight of iron usually employed in structures of similar dimensions, light in appearance, as gossamer suspended in the air, yet so solid that the deflection under the most severe tests, was scarcely appreciable. The principle is about to be adopted in all similar works in Belgium.

#### Mining Correspondence.

##### BRITISH MINES.

ALFRED CONSOLS.—Field's engine-shaft has been sunk 4 fms. below the 120 fm. level on the south part of the lode, which produces occasional stones of copper ore; this part of the lode in the 120 fm. level, east of this shaft, is worth for copper ore 4s. per fm. The lode in No. 1 winze sinking under the 110 fm. level, on this lode, is worth for copper ore 40s. per fm., and is 5 fms. east of the 120 fm. level end. The lode in the 120 fm. level east is worth for copper ore quite 200s. per fm. The lode in No. 2 winze, sinking under the 110 fm. level, is worth for copper ore 160s. per fm. We expect at our setting, on Saturday next, to commence sinking No. 3 winze under the 110 fm. level, where the lode is very good. We consider the mine to be quite as good as for the last twelve months past, and that no time should be lost in procuring an engine of from 70 to 80-horse power. —M. WHITE: Aug. 7.

ALTARNUN CONSOLS.—There is scarcely any alteration during the past week. The lode at the east end in the 10 fm. level continues very regular, and yields a fair quantity of tinstuff. In the 20, the lode that was north of the engine-shaft is now in the shaft, about 3 feet wide, producing some very good work for tin; the sinking of the shaft will be continued with all possible force, so that we may get the lode the south side of the shaft, and at our earliest convenience commence driving east and west on the same. I have set the tinstuff to cart from the shaft to the stamps at 6d. per load. We shall erect a horse-wheel to haul up the stuff from underground as soon as the shaftmen are ready for it. —R. REYNOLDS: Aug. 8.

ANGARRACK CONSOLS.—The end being driven east on the course of Mellenow lode is progressing favourably; the lode is small at present, but has a very kindly appearance. The ground will be completed in about a week; then we shall commence to sink a shaft from the surface to communicate with the adit end. —J. BARNETT: Aug. 9.

ARUNDELL.—At the Victoria engine-shaft, sinking under the 25 fm. level, the ground is very hard for sinking, and we have no sign of any foot-wall as yet. We have a very promising lode, and I have but little doubt of its making a large quantity of copper ore in depth. In the 25 fm. cross-cut, driving north to the great lode, I cannot see the least alteration since my last report; the ground continues favourable for driving. —Wm. THOMAS: Aug. 9.

BIRCH ALLER.—The 40, south of Pye's shaft, has been driven during the month 9 fms. 1 ft. on a promising lode, surrounded by a healthy killas for making large deposits of lead, the lode producing at times good stones of lead; but not in sufficient quantity to save; a cross-cut has been driven east in this level 4 fms., and intersected the lode, we have gone through several branches producing lead, and which are dipping towards the western or principal part of the lode, which augurs well for a little deeper. The winze has been raised above the back of the level 2 fathoms 3 ft. in easy ground, and by the end of this month I hope to form a communication with the 30, when it will be well ventilated, and we shall be able to resume the driving of it again. Pye's shaft is down nearly 2 fms. below the level; we have fixed the lead-rod with the lift of pumps, and perpendicular rods at Pye's shaft, and to day we started them in the presence of the committee; they were well pleased with the manner in which the rods started. Now we hope to commence the sinking of Pye's shaft in right earnest, and it is our opinion that we shall not sink far before we are seeing a decided change in the character of the lode. The pitch in the back of this level is looking much as I told you last. The engine and all the machinery, with the other surface operations, are going on much as usual. —R. G. OGDON: Aug. 5.

BOLENOWE.—We have intersected the lode in the 50, which is 2 feet wide, and has a promising appearance. —W. ROBERTS: Aug. 5.

BORINGDON CONSOLS.—We have met with a most important improvement in the 12 fm. level east going towards the counter lode—having cut into a most splendid branch of lead, which, if it holds on as at present, will make our mine all right for the future. I broke about 3 cwt. of the ore in about an hour, and have forwarded a box to you per train. This ore is more free from muddle than any I have yet at all seen here, and is embedded in a most beautiful channel of ground. We have still a good lode in the 12 fm. level west, and we are breaking some good work from the stopes. In the 24 east there is no alteration. —W. GODDARD: Aug. 8.

BONFLOYD.—The adit level keeps hard, with small strings of spar often coming across the breast; and the ground is dipping very fast to meet the expected lode. —J. JONES: Aug. 6.

BRYNTAIL.—The lode in the rise from the 12 fm. level, against the winze sunk under the deep adit, now contains a solid branch of ore, about 4 in. wide, lying on the foot wall; it came in from the eastern side of the rise, which has continued for about 4 feet in the rise; we have risen on it about 9 feet, and have got from 6 to 9 feet more to rise to effect a communication, when this is completed, I shall put the men to sink under the 12 fm. level, on the deposit of ore. The 12 fm. level, driving east of the rise, on the north part of the lode is very promising; it produces fine stones of ore, and is emitting a greater quantity of water than usual. The ground, in the level driving under the deposit of barytes is greatly altered, therefore I think we shall intersect the lode in the course of a few days. —J. ROACH: Aug. 10.

BUTTERDON.—The engine-shaft is sunk 21 fms. below the surface, ground good. The lode in the shaft is from 1 ft. to 1½ ft. wide, producing 5 cwt. of lead ore per fathom. —J. KEMP: Aug. 8.

CALSTOCK CONSOLS.—In driving the cross-cut south on the cross-course we have met with another lode or branch, about 7 inches wide, principally composed of copper ore, with fluor-spar and a little blende; before driving on its course it is intended to drive a short distance further south, to ascertain if there is any more lode in this direction. The ground in the cross-cut north to the Zion lode, is becoming better. There is no alteration to report in other parts of the mine. —W. B. COLLIER: Aug. 8.

CALSTOCK UNITED.—The men at the sump-shaft are fixing a plunger-lift at the 40 fm. level, and progressing favourably; we hope to resume the sinking after next week. In the last 3 feet sinking in this shaft we found the country and lode most settled; the lode is 4 ft. wide, composed of floukan, spar, and muddle, spotted with copper. The ground in the 40 south, in this shaft, is harder than last reported. The distance at this point to Brewer's lode cannot easily be shown, as the underlie of the said lode is irregular, and not well-defined; the probably length of cross-cut is from 10 to 12 fathoms. We have sunk 6 ft. on Brewer's lode, and the water being quiet we have suspended this work; the lode in this sink produces stones of first-rate ore; but nothing like a regular branch or leader of ore. We have put two men to drive water in the ground in the cross-cut at the adit through some crusts of blende, and the strata promises good returns of copper in depth. We have put two men to work on the lode at the 20, east of the lode; we have cut into the lode at this point, and think it worthy of some further development. We can soon drive the same shoot of ground, by driving east on the lode at the 40. The principal objects in this south mine to notice and recommend are the sinking of the sump shaft to the 50, which will be about 70 fms. from surface, and I have not the slightest doubt that when a level is driven east and west at the 50, below the large deposits of muddle, but large and increasing returns of copper will be witnessed. In the 10 fm. level north, it will be seen by this direction, there is about 5 fathoms to intersect the great lode, and inasmuch as this lode is not seen between the adit and the 20, we purpose to do this as soon as our lifts and rods are stayed. There is no material alteration in the muddle pitches; the tributaries are working with spirit, and have all things handy for transit of stuff to the machine. At Caroline's 52 fm. level, we have intersected the tin lode since last report; this lode is 3 ft. wide, composed of capel and peach, with fine leaders of tin of very rich quality, and likely to turn to good account. We shall draw a lot of this stuff to surface, and put the stamps on it next week. It is more than probable that by cutting through the severe parts of this lode at the 52, we shall drain it so as to be able to stop and sink on it from the 42; and in that case we shall soon be throwing up a great deal of tinstuff for the stamps. I beg respectfully to send the dialling and transverse sections of this mine, and shall be happy to afford you every additional explanation in my power. —J. KERNICK; W. COOKE: Aug. 5.

CAMBORNE CONSOLS.—The lode in the 30 west is 2 feet wide, producing stones of good ore. In the 10 fm. level west the lode is 1½ ft. wide, with stones of ore. The lode in the adit level west is 2 ft. wide, saving work. —W. ROBERTS: Aug. 5.

CARADON WOOD.—We have commenced here with the four men we have on the mine, to take the air pipes, timber, &c., out of the levels, and shall commence drawing up as soon as we can get some more men to assist, which I hope will be in a few days. —J. HOLMAN: Aug. 8.

CARVANALL.—The lode in the 96 west is very much improved, being now 2 ft. wide, and worth 15s. per fm. Other tutwork bargains are without any alteration. —W. ROBERTS: Aug. 4.

CLJAH AND WESTWORTH.—At Julia's lode, Walter's shaft is sunk 8 fathoms below the 30 fm. level; lode producing about 3 tons of ore per fm. In the 10 fm. level, east of Walter's shaft, will produce about 1 ton of ore per fm. The 20 fm. level, east of said shaft, is extended about 8 fms., where we have intersected the cross-course which has disordered the lode; driving at 45s. per fathom. The 30, east from Polkinghorne's winze, will yield about 3 tons of ore per fm. The 40 fm. level is extended east of cross-course 14 fms., where we have about 5 fms. more to arrive at the point where the lode is 20 and 30 fm. levels; the lode in the west of cross-course is extended about 2 fms.—lode composed of muddle, spar, and very rich stones of yellow ore. We have nine tribute pitches working, each pair of men getting good wages. —J. CUDLIP: Aug. 5.

CLOWANCE WOOD.—We have set Richards's shaft to sink below the 20 fathom level by six men at 4s. per fm.; we have also set to drive east and west a level at a pit; the shaft has been sunk 20 fms. 2 feet below the adit. In the east end the lode is 9 in. wide, west end 1 ft. wide, producing good grey stuff, set at 3s. per fm.; sunk in the past month 4 fms. 5 ft. 6 in. —J. DELBRIDGE; E. CROWNS: Aug. 7.

COMBARTON CONSOLS.—The cross-cut is driven 6 fms. from the shaft towards lode No. 2; I calculate we have 4 or 5 fms. to drive to intersect the lode. The branch spoken of in last report in the cross-cut is still intermixed with silver-lead ore. The machinery works well. —J. KERNICK: Aug. 9.

CRAIGWEN (NEAR DINAS).—The lode in the winze in No. 1 adit, on the silver-lead lode, is not so good as last week; it will not now produce more than 1 ton to a fm.; the ore is not so compact together. The ground at the shaft, on the course of Benjamin's lode, in the lower adit level, is a little better. I have now at this shaft nine miners and three labourers. The wheel-pit will be finished this week. The carpenters will commence pitting the wheel up early next week. —H. JONES: Aug. 9.

CWM DYLLY ROCK AND GREEN LAKE.—I have no material alteration to report relative to the stope this week. I propose taking a new stope at No. 6 level next week; this will enable us to obtain a larger supply of ore from this level. The stamps work well. The tramping I hope will be completed about the middle or latter part of next week: 54 tons of ore have been shipped for the week to Amble. —T. COLLIVER: Aug. 5.

CWM DARREN.—In the 30 fm. level, west of engine-shaft, the lode is 3 ft. wide, composed of spar and slate, intermixed with lead and copper ore. In the 30 fm. level west the lode is 20 in. wide, composed of spar and prinn, with good stones of copper ore; in the stopes in the back of this level the lode is 2 ft. wide, yielding about ½ a ton of copper ore per fm., and at times some good rocks of lead. In the adit level east the lode is 15 in. wide, unproductive. —A. WATERS: Aug. 7.

DARREN.—There is not anything done under the adit level since my last report, as the water became so powerful that we were obliged to suspend all operations in the 10 fm. level until we get the water-wheel to work, which will be in the 15th inst. We have met with the ore of the lode as yet in the 40, west of cross-course. The lode in Francis's level west is 7 ft. wide, yielding 25 cwt. of lead ore per fm. The pitches throughout the mine are looking much as usual. We shall sample 12 tons of lead ore on the 15th inst. —S. TRAVENNA: Aug. 9.

DEVON BULLER.—We have once more forked the water, and the men have resumed their work. The cross-cut in the 20 fathom level is extended north of engine-shaft 9 fms., and according to the underlay of the lode, we have about 3 fms. more to drive to cut it, which I think will be accomplished in about three or four weeks. —M. STRAZZUS: Aug. 9.

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and from which immense quantities of ore were raised from the adjoining sett; this lode, according to the bearing, 20° east of north, traverses Wood Mine sett from 800 to 700 fms. I have put two men to sink a trial shaft, and two more to cut it further north, and to trace it on the back, in order to carry on future operations; this is the lode former parties costained for, but never cut. My candid opinion is, that if the working of this mine is fairly and fully carried out, judging from the locality and indications, it will ultimately prove productive, and give general satisfaction to the proprietors. The masses are beautiful, with all speed, and the smith is getting on very well with the connecting plates for shaft-rods and joints, as required. I enclose the cost-sheet for July, which I hope you will find correct.—S. COCK: Aug. 9.

**YEOLAND CONSOLS.**—I send you the list of settings for August, by which you will perceive that several reductions have been made in respect of labour. The general prospects of the mine have undergone no material change since my report of the 26th July. We are altering the application for pumping the water from the new shaft as fast as we can, and shall be ready to attach the rods to the pumping engine in a day or two, after which this shaft will be sunk without hindrance. The hills have undergone a great change for the better, and speaks well for the lode, which we shall cut in about 8 fms. sinking. I hope in the course of a short time to bring this mine into such a state of working as to give you and the company general satisfaction, and that in a short time the mine will pay its way. By sinking the Roborough shaft, and extending the deeper levels through an improving lode, I look for a still further improvement. The setting is as follows:—Stoping in back of the 36, at 10s. per fm.; stoping in back of the 24, at 5s. per fm.; stoping in the 24, at 22s. 6d. per fathom; driving the 36 east, at 35s. per fm.; driving the 24, at 25s. per fathom.—R. WILLIAMS: Aug. 10.

**WRYSGAN SLATE QUARRY.**—We have shipped the cargo of slates for Bristol, and our works are progressing satisfactorily.—R. W. R. SADDLER: Aug. 8.

### FOREIGN MINES.

#### ALTEN MINING ASSOCIATION.—[Report from 10th to 24th July]

**Raispas.**—In this mine we have still about 2 ft. of water in the 30, which prevents us from resuming any of the lodes. In the slope below the 20 the lode has improved considerably, and looks very promising; a favourable change has also taken place in the ground, which is easier to excavate. The returns from the south-west workings continue variable, but still remunerative. Upon the whole, the mine appears to have improved, and the tributers are doing well.

**Old Mine.**—All the stopes (with the exception of one in the eastern workings) yield satisfactory returns, averaging from 4 to 4½ tons of ore per fm., and look promising. In the tram-road level there is no change of importance since last reported. The prospects in the mine sinking under the shallow adit continue equally good, yielding remunerative returns, and looking very promising for the eastern part of the mine, and holds out very promising indications for the eastern part of the mine.

**United Mines.**—There is no improvement to note in Woodfall's level; the appearance of the pitches is promising, and the returns pretty good. **Michell's.**—The lode in the shallow adit rise presents much the same appearance as last reported, but the ground is rather hard; if we do not soon see a change we think it is higher up in an old working, and sink instead of rise, which will be easier and less expensive. No alteration in the new adit.

#### GRAND DUCHY OF BADEN CHARTERED MINES.—

**Freiburg, Aug. 2.**—At Wilhelm's level, in the end going east on the Teufelsgrube lode, there is no change since last report. In the rise in the back of the level the lode is 4 in. wide, making 5 cwt. of ore per fm. The workings in the mine under this level, with the exception of the rise, have been stopped for the present, as there is not sufficient air for more than one set of men to work; they will be resumed in a fortnight or so, by which time we shall be able to put in the air pipes from the old adit level. In pitch No. 1, in the back of the level, the lode is ½ ft. wide, worth 3 cwt. of ore per fm. In pitch No. 2 the lode is 1 foot wide, producing 4 cwt. per fm. In pitch No. 3 the lode is nearly 3 ft. wide, making 25 cwt. per fm. In pitch No. 4 the lode is upwards of 1 foot wide, yielding 16 cwt. per fm. In pitch No. 5 the lode is 1½ ft. wide, making 7 cwt. per fathom. In pitch No. 13 the lode is 1 ft. wide, worth 14 cwt. per fm. These pitches have been stopped for this month, as we have a great accumulation of ore at grass, but they will be resumed as soon as our heap of ore is somewhat diminished. In the middle level, in the end driving east (which is about 150 ft. in advance of the end in Wilhelm's level) the lode is 10 inches wide, producing 6 cwt. of ore per fm. In pitch No. 12, in the back of the level, the lode is 1 ft. wide, making 6 cwt. per fm. In pitch No. 13 the lode is 1½ ft. wide, worth 18 cwt. per fathom. In pitch No. 16 the lode is 1 ft. wide, yielding 9 cwt. per fm. In Trappert's level, in the end driving east on Teufelsgrube lode, from the bottom of winze No. 3, the lode is ½ ft. wide, without much ore. In the end going west, towards the east end in middle level, there is not more than 4 in. of lode, with no ore to value. Here we have also been obliged to stop work till air pipes can be placed; we shall then resume sinking, in order to effect a communication with Wilhelm's level as speedily as possible. On Schindler lode, in the end going north from the bottom of the winze, the lode is ½ ft. wide, producing 2 cwt. per fm. Pitch No. 6, in the back of Trudert's level, yields 2 cwt. of ore per fm. Pitch No. 7 is worth 7 cwt. per fm., and pitch No. 7 is worth 7 cwt. per fm. In accordance with the instructions I received whilst in England, I have had the stuff cleared out from the south end in Trudert's level, and six men have been set to drive on the lode in that direction; at present there is about 5 in. of lode without ore. There were 7650 cwt. of rough ore crushed last month, which produced 465 cwt. of dressed ore (14½ per cent.); 7½ tons of ore were dressed more than in June. The men are getting the old shaft cleared out as rapidly as possible; it is now 150 ft. deep, and I expect to be able to take the old adit in another week or so. As we get down the underlay increases greatly, and at our present depth the shaft is upwards of 17 ft. wide; this causes some delay, as there is much more work to be done. At Herrenwald, our air mine, the shaft is completed, and six men have been set to drive on the new lode, in a westerly direction, at the junction of the two lodes. At Wies, the lode is ½ foot wide, with good stones of ore. We commenced smelting the 40 tons of ore that we had dressed on Monday last, and by the time they are run through the furnace I shall have another 20 tons ready, so that the work of the campaign may be estimated at 10000, to 12000.

#### LA FORTUNA MINING COMPANY.—

**Linares, July 31.**—As you are already made aware, our chief points of interest connected with the underground operations are dependent on getting the engines to work. I am consequently very glad to report to you the discharging of the 4th adit at Seville, with the remaining part of our machinery. Capt. Kendall is now there, in order to see to the careful discharge and loading of the heavy pieces for this place. The engine-house at Canada Incocha is up to the top of the bob-end, and is an excellent piece of work. We are still delayed for want of masons to finish our shaft, but I am glad that we have forwarded so much this part of our work previously, which will enable us to proceed with much regularity and dispatch on our engines going to work. On completing the Canada Incocha engine and boiler-house, the men will proceed with that of Los Salidos, so that I hope, when one engine is ready to work, the other house will be nearly ready also.—H. THOMAS.

#### IMPERIAL BRAZILIAN MINES.—[Received August 7.]

**Gongo, July 11.**—It is my firm opinion the Camara ores will produce more favourably when tested by amalgamation, but the process proposed being new in this country, it was impossible to speak positively until trials had been made. At Cata Funda, we are at length below the old sink, and have intersected a level driven by the former proprietors at that point, which must be cleared before any investigation of consequence can be undertaken. Both ends were choked up, thus leaving no alternative, or I should probably have had something definite to communicate on this occasion. I have had a number of samples taken of late, many of which have shown gold, which was not previously the case. The completion of the new rego, erecting the great western stamps, and applying the amalgamating machinery received from the Hayle Foundry will, I greatly fear, from the appearance of affairs, yet occupy a couple of months, although every effort shall be brought to bear to get the mill to work at an earlier period. What is being done, although apparently slow, is well done, which after all is the main consideration. Capt. Guy has discovered in the course of making the rego some rather encouraging jaconings, which has on some occasions shown fair samples when washed in the water. I intend to have it followed up, especially as I can have it done at only a few shillings cost. The stuff from which the rego has been supplied has proved extremely poor, even that from the tunnel scarcely yielding anything, which I hope, however, will not be of long duration. The washings for the month are as follows:—Goldsmith's, 8 ozs. 10 dwts.; Hocheder's, 5 ozs. 5 dwts.; Walker's, 1 lb. 9 ozs. 3 dwts.; Joazeiro's, 1 lb. 8 ozs. 6 dwts.; Camara, 1 oz. 16 dwts. = 4 lbs. 9 ozs.

#### NATIONAL BRAZILIAN MINING ASSOCIATION.—

**Cruzeiro, June 30.**—Just when the captain was writing his report (May 30), a crash occurred in one of the large assents, from which the soft stuff is pulled down to the main adit. It began above the weight of so great a strain of heavy stuff, and was much even for the strong and numerous timbers supporting, but extended down to the tram-road, which was filled in consequence with stuff. This not only prevented the wagon from being run, but necessitated new passes being made from the main adit more easterly to get to the stoep, from which all the jaconings had been taken. From this delay, and from only having the stuff taken from these new passes to stamp, of course the produce fell greatly off. Indeed, it is impossible to obtain a regular produce, as there is not a sufficient number of Englishmen to do the work; for when these we have are engaged in timbering the mine, the stoep cannot be properly attended to. Produce for the month, mks. 1 6 4 6.

#### ST. JOHN DEL REY MINING ASSOCIATION.—[Rec. Aug. 7.]

**Morro Velho, June 19.**—Produce for May, 30,665 octavas=294,626 lbs. troy, derived as follows:—From stamps, 28,966 octas; arrastres, 1437 octas; new streaks, 285 octas.—total, 30,688 octas, from 7439 210 tons of stone, yielding 4122 octas per ton. This produce is less than it should be, because, as a part of the experiment relating to the roasting of the stone, three heads of the Lyon stamps were employed during the last eleven days of the month in stamping raw stone, in order to be able to compare the produce of the raw with that of the roasted, and the sand from these heads has not yet been amalgamated.

Produce for May, 30,665 octas. (less duty, 5 per cent., 1533 octas.)= 29,132 octas, at 7s. 6d. £11,168 8 4  
Cost for May, 7,168 9 4

Profit £3,969 18 7

Stamps working during the month, average 129 43 heads, for 30 63 days. Gold extracted to date, 8762 octas, from 691 97 cubic ft. of sand (result of 11 days' stamping), yielding 14 50 per cubic foot. This is a very satisfactory produce; but the stone being very poor, and in order to have enough for the six up to get over Whit-Monday (given as a holiday instead of Easter-Monday), we were obliged not only to bring in about 170 tons from the refuse-heap, but also to retain almost the whole of the dead kilns.

We have seen some splendid specimens of ore from the Riton Castle Mine, raised within the last week from Potter's lode. This mine is in the immediate neighbourhood of the Old Bog, which has produced enormous profits—in fact, the mines in this district (Shropshire) cannot be equalled for lead. We are glad to find that they have another lode in this sett, called the Wheel-pit lode. This is the same lode as the Old Bog, and similar results may, we think, be fairly expected, and we trust fully realised.

**Mr. Wolferstan,** the manager of North Wheel Robert, writes under date August 10, as follows:—"I was at North Wheel Robert yesterday, and have the pleasure to inform you that the new shaft is down 5 fms. from surface, and the lode in the bottom is large, producing very fine goann, containing good copper ore, and is altogether as promising a lode as can be seen. The 30 and is not looking quite so well, but this is only a temporary change. It is at present not being worked, but is being worked with the productiveness of the ore to be sold on the 17th; the 60 tons parcel is 8½, and the 12 tons 5½. We shall, therefore, have a good sale."

## The Mining Market; Prices of Metals, Ores, &c.

METAL MARKET, London, August 11, 1854.

COPPER.		QUICKSILVER.	
Sheeting and bolts .p. lb.	0 1 2	2 0 2 1	
Bottoms . . . . .	0 1 0 5	Foreign . . . . .	20 5 0-10 0
Best selected . . . . .	129 0 0	To arrive . . . . .	21 5 0-21 10 0
Tough cake . . . . .	126 0 0	KING.	
Tin . . . . .	126 0 0	In sheets . . . . .	27 10 0-28 0 0
South American . . . . .	124 8 0-125 0 0	TIN.	
IRON.		English, blocks . . . . .	119 0 0-—
Bars, Welsh, in London . . . . .	10 5 0-10 10 0	Ditto, Bars (in barrels) . . . . .	120 0 0-—
Ditto, to arrive . . . . .	10 0 0-—	Ditto, Refined . . . . .	122 0 0-—
Bars, ditto . . . . .	11 0 0-—	Banca . . . . .	114 0 0-116 0 0
Stafford, in London . . . . .	13 10 0-—	Straits . . . . .	110 0 0-114 0 0
Bars, ditto . . . . .	13 10 0-13 0 0	TIN-PLATES.	
Sheets, single . . . . .	14 5 0-14 10 0	IC Charcoal . . . . .	1 14 0-1 15 0
No. 1, in Wales . . . . .	15 0 0-5 0 0	IX Ditto . . . . .	2 0 0-2 1 0
Refined metal, ditto . . . . .	5 0 0-5 10 0	IX Coke . . . . .	1 9 0-1 10 0
Bars, common, ditto . . . . .	8 15 0-9 0 0	IX Ditto . . . . .	1 15 0-1 16 0
Ditto, railway, ditto . . . . .	8 0 0-8 5 0	Canada plates . . . . .	16 10 0
Ditto, Swedish, in Lond. . . . .	13 0 0-14 10 0	In London; 20s. less at the works.	
Pig, No. 1, in Clyde . . . . .	4 5 0-4 6 0	Patent Yellow Metal Sheet-	
LEAD.		ing (Mantz) . . . . .	0 1 0
English Pig . . . . .	23 0 0-23 10 0	Wetterstedt's Pat. Met. . . . .	2 2 0
Ditto sheet . . . . .	23 40 0-24 0 0	Stirling's Non-lamina-	
Ditto lead . . . . .	23 10 0-24 0 0	ting, or Hardened . . . . .	9 0 0-9 2 0
Ditto white . . . . .	27 0 0-28 0 0	Surface Rails, p. ton . . . . .	
Ditto patent sheet . . . . .	26 0 0-26 10 0	Stirling's Patent . . . . .	3 12 6
Spanish, in bond . . . . .	22 10 0-23 0 0	Toughened Pigs . . . . .	
American . . . . .	none.	Ditto . . . . .	4 0 0-4 5 0
FOREIGN STEEL.		Indian Charcoal Pigs . . . . .	— 0 0 0
Swedish, in keg, p. ton . . . . .	21 0 0-—	In London . . . . .	
Ditto, in faggots . . . . .	18 0 0-21 0 0		
English, Spring . . . . .	24 0 0-—		

In Liverpool, 5s. to 10s. per ton less. In Liverpool, 6d. per box less.

**REMARKS.**—An improved tone in our market is evidently manifest; the prices of some metals have advanced, while others are very firm, and assume rather an upward tendency. Buyers are now beginning to gain confidence, as our market is getting somewhat clearer of those metals on which advances had been made, and were being offered about by holders for almost what they would realise. COPPER is still firm at our quotations, without much alteration in the demand, which is very dull. There has been very little opportunity afforded for speculation in this metal for some time past, as the continuance of the same high price has allowed no room for it. IRON.—There is a good business doing in English Bars, the American and Madras markets principally attracting the attention of shippers. Rails are neglected, and can be secured on easy terms. Orders for Staffordshire quantities at the moment are not so pressing. The market for Scotch Pig has much improved, gradually rising when on Wednesday there was a very animated feeling, and the price of mixed numbers attained 85s. cash, but yesterday dropped about 6d. per ton; to-day sellers are quoting 85s., free on board in the Clyde. LEAD is in moderate request, at current rates. SPLITTER appears to be slowly recovering its position; 200. 10s. per ton has been paid for a parcel. The market in Silesia has not been affected by the change here, which is confirmed by the difference in price for arrival to that on the spot. TIN.—The market for English qualities is weak, with a probability of some reduction in price taking place shortly. The Dutch sale took place on the 9th instant, when the whole quantity was sold at 66s. per cwt. Banca and Straits have consequently advanced, and sellers are holding even for higher prices than those quoted; 110s. per ton for Straits has been readily paid. TIN-PLATES.—A great many second-hand parcels are pressing the market, and may be bought at about 2s. per box under the makers' prices. STEEL.—A sale of faggots has realised 21s. per ton, but inferior brands might be bought at something under. KEG is much wanted. QUICKSILVER as last quoted.

**GLASGOW, Aug. 10.**—The improvement in our Pig-iron market announced last week has been going on gradually, and quotations were yesterday 2s. per ton above those of Aug. 3. A fair business has been doing till to-day, when prices got easier; yesterday sales were made at 85s. 6d. cash, and closed sellers 85s. 6d., which may not be considered as the price; g.m.b., No. 1, 85s. 6d.; No. 3, 84s.; Garthbarrie, 87s. 6d. A better demand for Lead, and prices firmer. Zinc very quiet.—WILLIAM JOHNSTON, Metal Merchant.

**LIVERPOOL, Aug. 10.**—The demand for manufactured iron continues steady. In Pig-iron there has been a rally, caused by the "beast" taking alarm and rushing into "cover." Price advanced yesterday to 55s. cash, for mixed Nos. warrants, but to-day the market has dropped again to 55s. 3d. sellers, at which it closes very feeble. Tin Plates quiet. In Lead and Copper no change.

**MINES.**—A greater amount of business has been transacted this week, but to effect sales, even in dividend stocks, lower rates have been taken. Bullers, which a short time since were 1200s., have been done at 800s., a fall of 400s. on a share paying nearly 200s. per annum in dividends. Bassets have been sold at 600s. to 620s., a fall of 150s. on a share paying 120s. per annum in dividends. Alfred Consols remain firm at 22s. to 22½. 10s. ex div., although, owing to the erection of extra machinery, the present dividend is only 10s. per share. West Alfred Consols, 24s. to 25s.; Great Alfred, 30s. to 35s. West Wheel Alfred has been suspended, after an expenditure of 25,000s. in about two years. In Sortridge Consols, in which so much was doing a short time since, few transactions are recorded, nor will there be much business in the shares until the machinery is erected. Herodfoot shares have changed hands at 7s. being 7000s. for a dividend mine, with machinery upon it valued at nearly 5000s.; before the south lode was cut, and which is now the best in the mine, the shares were 20s. each, showing that supply and demand have more to do with the price of shares than intrinsic merits. Trewetha, 3s. 15s. to 4s.; North Trelawny, 6s. 15s. to 7s. 5s.; South Tamar, 9s. 15s. to 10s.; Wheal Wrey, 3s. 5s. to 3s. 10s.; Gonamena, 10s. to 11s.; South Caradon, 27s. to 28s.; Gilmar, 7s.; North Pool, 190s. to 195s.; Curdrow, 125s. to 130s.; West Bassett, 32s. to 33s.; North Bassett, 15s. to 16s.; Trelawny, 45s.

**Metallic shares,** which a short time since were 18s. premium, or at the rate of 285,000s. for the mines, have been done at 3s. per share. We believe it to be a fact that, prior to the company being formed, and brought out in the Stock Exchange, the mines could have been had for a very small sum of money by men connected with mining. We mention this more particularly at the present time, for although neither admirers of nor advocates for many of the schemes concocted in the English mining market, our attention has been called to the practice which has sprung up of late amongst certain parties of denouncing all mining speculations at home, which may not have equalled the expectations originally formed of them. In many of these cases the sufferers themselves are, in a great measure, to blame. We have more than once advised parties, before embarking in such speculations, to test the reports given of them, by sending some respectable agent to inspect, and which could always be done at a trifling cost, and in a few hours. That in selecting and recommending mines, the best judgments may err, those who look at the reports which were issued respecting the Metcalf might have the charity to allow; but there is an old saying, that a man who kills his hundreds is a hero, but he who kills one is a murderer; and upon this principle a mining company, formed under high auspices, fostered by the Stock Exchange, and ending with a loss of 285,000s., is a creditable affair. But a mine in Cornwall or elsewhere, supported by mining men, and the reports concerning which could have been tested in a few days, if it fails, and incurs a loss of 10,000s., is a "swindle!" Those who know anything of mining affairs at the present moment will not consider these remarks overdrawn; indeed, they might be carried further. The gold schemes, which never received the support of the mining market, have ended in a loss of nearly 3,000,000s.—a sum equal, if not greater, than the whole capital employed in Cornish mining, and a loss, moreover, which has so disgusted the public, that its ill effects will long be felt, over in legitimate undertakings. In Cornish mining, bad as some of the speculations may be, there is at least some return for money invested, as the dividends from profits exceed 300,000s. a year.

A great improvement has recently occurred in Leeds Town Consols; they have a rich lode in the west part of the sett, which continues to improve as they sink deeper, and worth now 40s. per fm. Their various levels are gradually opening tribute ground.

In the Bullion Market.—Dollars, 5s. 2d. per oz. Bar gold, 77s. 9d. per oz. standard. Spanish doubloons, 77s. 6d. per oz. Columbian ditto, 76s. per ounce.

**At Wheal Bassett meeting,** on the 1st inst., the accounts for May and June showed—Balance from last account, 617s. 8s. 3d.; ore sold (less lord's dues), 11,577s. 10s. 10d.; sundries, 117s. 8s. 5d. = 12,352s. 9s. 8d.—Mine costs and merchants' bills, 4930s. 2s. 10d.; income tax and Stannary dues, 90s. 1s. 10d.; South Mine loss, as below, 250s. 13s. 4d.; by dividend of 20s., and bonus of 2s. 10s., per share, 5768s.; leaving balance to next account, 1174s. 4s. 8d.

The South Mine accounts showed—Mine costs and merchants' bills for May and June, 376s. 18s. 6d.—Ore sold (less dues), 126s. 5s. 2d.; balance loss, 250s. 13s. 4d.

**At West Wheel Seton meeting,** on Tuesday, the accounts for May and June showed—Balance last account, 197s. 6s. 4d.; ore sold (less dues), 2248s. 11s. 8d. = 2445s. 18s.—Mine cost, 8s., 1418s. 9s. 8d.; by dividend of 5s. per share (1000s.); leaving balance to next account, 27s. 8s. 4d.

**The West Damsel Mine accounts show—**Balance in hand at the end of March, 733s. 19s. 8d.; ore sold, April 27th, 1464s. 16s. 3d. = 2218s. 15s. 11d.—Mine cost for April, 100s. 1s. 4d.; by dividend of 40s. per share, 512s.; leaving balance in hand, 632s. 14s. 7d.

**At Alfred Consols bi-monthly meeting,** on Monday, the accounts showed—Balance from last account, 1357s. 2s. 3d.; by copper ore sold (less dues, 1-18th), 4784s. 13s. 6d.; sundry debts received from men, 8s. 15s. = 6150s. 10s. 9d.—Mine cost, April and May, 1552s. 15s. 10d.; doctor and club, 21s. 2s. 1d.; sublet advanced, May and June, 183s. 19s. 7d.; merchants' bills, 832s. 7s. 5d.; leaving balance in favour of adventurers, 3570s. 8s. 10d. A dividend was declared of 10s. per share (2500s.), leaving balance to the credit of next account, 1010s. 8s. 10d. The profit on the two months' working was 2131s. 8s. 7d. The agents were instructed to procure, if possible, a good second-hand engine, of not less than 70-hp. cylinder, and should they not succeed in procuring it by the 1st September they are to obtain tenders for a new one. Captain Matthew White reported that the tribute department looked well, and that the mine was quite as good as for the last twelve months.

**At Wheal Trevelyan meeting,** on Monday (Mr. Joseph M'Cron in the chair), the accounts showed—Balance last account, 35s. 16s. 2d.; mine cost, April, 1853, to 1854, 1310s. 7s. 1d. = 1346s. 2s. 3d.—Calls received, 430s. 2s. 6d.; tin sold, 913s. 5s. 6d.; leaving balance against adventurers, 67s. 15s. 3d. Balance of liabilities over assets, 316s. 14s. 6d. Capt. John D. Osborn and Benj. Gundry reported that the engines and pitwork were now in good working order; the whins had been repaired, and put in good order; and the dressing establishment was in very good working condition, and considerably improved.

**At Alarcun Consols Mining Company meeting,** on the 3d inst. (Mr. John Jones in the chair), the accounts showed—Calls in hand, 127s. 1s. 6d.; calls received, 1345s. = 1372s. 1s. 6d.—Balance of engine, 653s. 5s. 6d.; April, 69s. 7s. 8d.; May, 123s. 15s. 6d.; June, 119s. 6s. 6d.; merchants' bills, 146s. 14s.; leaving balance in favour of adventurers, 260s. 18s. 10d. A call of 2s. 6d. per share was made. Messrs. J. F. Cocks, J. Gratton, W. Wiseman, G. Richardson, and J. W. Gray, were appointed the committee of management for the next two months. Capt. James Hosking reported very favourably on the mine. Capt. R. Reynolds also reported that the lode in the 10 is still holding good, about 1 foot wide. The lode in the 30 is also producing fine work for tin. They expected to commence stamping very shortly.

**At the Cwmbeishan Mining Company meeting,** on Tuesday (Mr. Coleman in the chair), a lengthened report was read by Mr. Brunton, which stated that the responsibilities connected with the prosecution of the mine were the purchase money, 15,000s.; 700s. to be paid to the promoters; and a sufficient working capital to be raised. A resolution was passed to adjourn the meeting for a fortnight, the shareholders to elect whether they will share the liabilities, or relinquish all claims on their shares.

**At the North Staffordshire Consols Mines quarterly meeting,** on Saturday, Aug. 5 (the Earl of Devon in the chair), the report of Mr. Silvester and Capt. Bonal was read, and two members of the committee, who have recently visited the mines, gave further verbal explanations of the present position and prospects of the works. The statement of accounts showed a balance in favour of the mines of 576s. 10s. 5d. The proceedings terminated with the re-appointment of the committee of management, and a vote of thanks to the chairman and committee. [The report will be found among the Mining Correspondence.]

**At Tamar Maria Mine meeting,** on Saturday (Mr. S. Weatherly in the chair), the accounts showed a balance in favour of adventurers of 157s. 5s. 1d.; the liabilities and assets showed a balance in favour of the latter of 407s. 7s. 7d., in addition to 1600 unissued shares. The mine was stated to be proceeding favourably, but slowly, in consequence of the non-payment of calls. The proceedings are detailed in another column.

**At the Coosheen Mining Company meeting,** convened for Tuesday last, pro forma, the proceedings were adjourned to the 29th inst. The various matters which will then be submitted will be given to the shareholders in due time and form.

**At the Tees Side Mining Company meeting,** held at the mines, on Wednesday (the Rev. A. G. Hogarth in the chair), it was agreed to adjourn to Wednesday, the 23d inst., at Newcastle-on-Tyne, in order to receive the report of Capt. Charles Thomas, who had only been able to inspect the mine the day previous.

**At the Great Welsh Mine bi-monthly meeting,** held at the company's office, 17, Gracechurch-street (Mr. R. Ellis in the chair), the accounts were examined and passed. There were favourable reports from the captain, to the effect that the engine was all delivered, and that the engine works were working every day, and that no time might be lost in starting it, and which it was expected would be by the 1st of September, when a short time would enable them to intersect the five large lodes opened upon, and from which 20 tons of lead had been sold. When a deeper level, it was expected that large monthly sales must take place.

**At Caradon Wood Mine general meeting,** on the 4th inst., the accounts showed a cash balance of 26s. 8s. 7d. in hand. About 1 ton of gossan from this mine was crushed in Berdan's machine in February last, under circumstances which may be said to have ensured a fair and bona fide trial, the result of which was about 13 dwts. of gold per ton, besides 2 or 3 dwts. which were found in the tailings. On the occasion alluded to, virgin mercury was used, and the machine was worked by Mr. Hensman, the engineer of the Bank of England, and six of his men, Mr. Berdan, and all connected with him, being absent the whole time, while the gossan was broken to the works until about to be operated on; in fact, the most minute precautions were taken to prevent any suspicion being raised as to the results. The gossan at the mine is very abundant, and there being a good water-wheel and plenty of water-power, if anything like 13 dwts. per ton can be secured upon a large scale, good profits will be made. At the general meeting, on the 4th inst., the committee were requested to have 10 tons tested by the most efficient mast at their command as early as possible.

**At Wheal Victoria general meeting,** on the 4th inst., the accounts showed a cash balance of 23s. 16s. 8d. in hand. A call of 1s. per share was made. The crosscut north and south in the 40 under the adit, and still being driven, in which several lodes have been cut, but none have yet been driven on; when these crosscuts are extended to cut several other lodes, the most promising will be selected for operating on. The lodes in this mine are stated to be those of the West and South Caradon Mines, and are represented as quite as encouraging here as they were in those celebrated mines in the same stage.

**At the West Sortridge Consols general meeting,** the accounts showed a balance in favour of mine of 89s. 13s. 5d. A call of 6d. per share was made. Capt. Pryor reported that the lode in the bottom of the adit level, on No. 1 tin lode, was worth at least 40s. per fm., the price for stoping being 4s. 4s. per fm. He estimates that there are 3 tons of good quality tin on the floors, worth 350s., and that he can return from 2 to 3 tons of tin per month for a beginning. Stamps are to be erected without delay. When harvest is over it is intended to lay open the Sortridge lode further west, where the ground is more settled.

**At East Wheal Russell general meeting,** on Thursday, the accounts showed a balance of cash in hand, 40s. 10s. 3d. A call of 5s. per share was made. The shaft is down on the lode 87 fms., and a favourable change is looked for shortly.

**At Hemerdon Consols general meeting,** on Friday, the accounts showed a cash balance of 699s. 0s. 7d. in hand, and calls in arrears, 448s., to forfeit

Total .....	5222	\$27,028 06
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Copper ores for sale on Thursday next, at the Royal Hotel, Turco.—Mines  
parcels.—Devon Great Consols 1804—Marke Valley 493—Holmbush 322—West  
ton 310—Great Arthur 233—Great Sheba Consols 200—Bedford United 150—  
Wheal Croft and East 151—Wheal Friendship 150—Wheal Russell 87—Cailing  
Kelly Bray 84—North Wheel Robert 73—South Bedford Consols 53—Wheal Cer-  
berus 53—Wheal Carpenter 46—Gawton United 23—Wh. Zion 27—Hawk Moor 26—A1099  
Copper Ores for sale on Thursday week, at Tabb's Hotel, Redruth.—Mines  
Parcels.—United Mines 800—Tresavean 567—Powers Consols 330—South Caradoc  
—Wheal Damell 250—Creesthavan 215—Wheel Comfort 201—South Crinoid 11—  
Folguis 121—Totals 1116—West Fieborro 42—St. Agnes 31—  
Trevellick 29—Trevellick 29—Trevellick 29—Wheal Mary 12—North Wheal Damel  
Michella Ore 1—Total, \$188,000.

### Notices to Correspondents.

\* Much inconvenience having arisen in consequence of several of the Numbers during the past year being out of print, we request that the Journal should be regularly sent on receipt: it then forms an accumulating useful work of reference.

**ANTHONY SHOT.**—Sir: A paragraph on this subject appeared in your Journal of last week, stating that Government was making extensive experiments to introduce anthony shot. Now, Sir, as we are the originators of this idea, or character of shot, we may inform you that last month we had an interview with the Select Committee, at Woolwich, on the advantages of similar metal, claiming a property of wounding six men, as more beneficial to the service than killing two. After due consideration, the official decision did not return until the 8th of August; thus far our experiments are arrived. On the 7th, your correspondent inserted what we consider to be very premature information. We maintain that the metal shown was not antimony, but in character and nature similar. The shot will carry the distance, and on striking any hard substance, the separation will take place, and a cloud of shot, or pieces of metal of all angles, sharp and poisonous, expand in all directions, according to the force and shape of the object struck, was the result of our experiments.—*Smith and Co., antimony refiners: William-st., Lambeth, Aug. 11.*

**W. P. (Glasgow).**—There is not one gold mining company at present at a premium. Whether the directors will buy the scrip or not, remains to be seen. Without hazarding any invidious remarks, we must observe that nearly every species of gold mining stock is much below its stated value.

**COLLIERY ACCIDENTS.**—Sir: In the fourth report from the Committee on Accidents in Coal Mines, at page 5, it is stated:—"It appears certain that after explosions two-thirds of the deaths occur from after-damp." Now, it seems to me that there are at the least two ways by which almost as soon as the explosion has occurred a considerable quantity of air might be driven, at short intervals, through the workings. The one would be by dropping or lowering at a great speed something sufficiently weighty, and of such a size and shape, as to fill the shaft, and consequently drive the fresh air before it. The other to cover up the mouth of the pit with the wagon weighted, and then explode a charge of powder under it a certain distance down to draw it off, and permit the fresh air to enter, and then repeat the explosion. There are, no doubt, persons who could at once tell what amount of air would be displaced, and consequently driven down the downcast and up the upcast by different sized charges; and also if fulminating powder would not have the greater effect. Should either of these hints seem worthy of notice, I know you will not scruple to bring them before the public.—*Geo. ANDERSON: Darlaston, Aug. 5.*

**E. I. C. (Bishopsgate-street).**—Within the last three months, the large vein in the Storvick's Grube, in Bohemia, has materially diminished, and the production of these mines, which have been continuously worked since 1644, has decreased. The woods are likewise nearly all destroyed; and as there is a difficulty now of procuring fuel for the smelting-works, it is questionable how much longer the works can be carried on, even at their present low profit.

**ENGLISH AND AUSTRALIAN COPPER COMPANY.**—Sir: Having an interest in this undertaking, I beg to suggest to the committee of investigation, that the Australian portion of the property be valued, and offered to the Burra Burra Company—this company creating shares for the purchase thereof. The Burra Burra Mines have a world-wide fame, and scrip of small amount would always be convertible into cash, therefore equivalent thereto.—*A SHAREHOLDER: August 8.*

**NORTH DING DONG MINE.**—Sir: The following information, which I have received from a reliable source, having reference to what has been described as "the proceedings of a general meeting of shareholders in the North Ding Dong Mine," held at the account-house of East Ding Dong, on the 2nd June last, is of much importance to the shareholders, who are, I am assured, totally ignorant of the matter; and, therefore, publicity through your Journal would be of valuable service to such parties interested, and will let them see in what manner their affairs are managed by the parser. The substance of the information communicated to me is to the following effect:—"That no person was present at the said meeting in North Ding Dong, excepting the parser; that resolutions were passed, and a call made of 10s. per share, by this solitary individual; that he has further forwarded to each shareholder a printed statement of the accounts and proceedings of such meeting, and has even represented that such proceedings of the meeting were signed by all the adventurers present. The same authority also informs me that matters are now in a very satisfactory state as regards the East Ding Dong Mine, which is under the same management; and, I think, for the information and satisfaction of those concerned, Mr. Parser should apprise us, through your Journal, of all facts connected with the concern over which he presides.—*R.: City, Aug. 10.*"

**G. B. C. (Cannon-street).**—Coal has been found in Portugal, not far from Moncorvo, in the province of Braganza; but hitherto the inhabitants have not worked it, though it is cropping out to the surface. The smiths in the district use charcoal; although there is great scarcity of that material, and, consequently, it is very expensive.

**THE WELSH POTASH MINING COMPANY.**—Sir: Remarking to a friend, the other day, how fortunate it was that the Welsh Potash Lead Mine had escaped the efficient management of that enterprising and profitable undertaking—the late manager of the Eglwys Wen Mining Company—and instancing the sale of 100 tons to Messrs. Walker and Parker on the 15th July last, as per *Mining Journal* of 4th inst., as a proof of what energy and activity can do as accomplished, I was startled to hear it doubted that any sale had been effected by the Welsh Potash Mining Company since its formation—in fact, I was told "that not 1 lb. of ore had been sold." As a tyro in mining affairs, I am anxious to learn if it be possible for so gross a misstatement, should it be one, to remain officially unnoticed, especially as the names of the purchasers, a highly-respectable firm, are given.—*ANGLO: Finchurch-street, Aug. 9.*

**A Speculator (Cornhill).**—Whatever may be the merits of the other gold patent crushing machines, and their name is now "legion," yet the one in question has shown most candidly and truthfully, both by assays before and trials afterwards, that in too many instances the gold said to be in the ore was not there. After the doubts existing on gold mining in California and Australia, it is scarcely to be expected that the scheme would have been so successful here. It is to be hoped that the past experience will teach the public caution for some time to come.

**TESTIMONIAL TO MR. GUEDELLA.**—A correspondent, from Birmingham, is of opinion that those interested in gold mining companies, who have benefited by that gentleman's exposures, should subscribe for a memorial to be presented to him. The address of Mr. Lindo is King's Arms-yard, Moorgate-street.

**SOUTH TAWTON CONSOLIDATED MINES.**—Sir: An advertisement was inserted in your Journal of the 5th inst., calling a general meeting of the shareholders in South Tawton Mine, to be held on the 11th inst., and my name appended to it. I beg to say, that I did not know anything about it until it was shown to me on Monday afternoon, and I shall feel obliged if you will publish this in your Journal of this week. I have given my solicitor instructions to find out the party who sent it to you, and make of my name in so unwarrantable a manner.—*THOMAS MOYLE: London, August 11.*

**"Correspondent,"** who writes on the subject of Slate Quarries, should have appended his name to the letter he wishes to publish. Having hitherto been so successful by following his own judgment, our readers, on knowing the prognosticator, would, doubtless, feel an interest in watching for the events he anticipates.

**NEW SOUTH WALES GOLD MINING.**—Sir: Can any of your correspondents inform me what amount of the 20s. paid is to be returned, and where, also, is the present residence of Mr. Wynne, one of the directors? The solicitors, Messrs. Armstrong and Westbrook, ought, at the recent interment of this abortive, to have published a balance-sheet in your Journal. When the shares came out, you recommended the company very warmly, from the well-known ability of Mr. Westmacott. By-the-by, what has become of him? For the sake of aiding any one who may wish to take legal proceedings, I annex a list of directors, which includes no less a personage than the Hon. Henry Fitzroy, M.P., who has never been near the office for two years.—*Comptroller of the Hon. H. S. Fitzroy, Esq., Albany Chambers; the Hon. Henry Fitzroy, M.P., Upper Grosvenor-street; R. J. Moxley, Calcutta Hall, Finsbury; Lieut.-Col. G. F. Thompson, Royal Engineers, Middle Scotland-square; H. Cornwell, Delbury Hall, Salop; J. Adair, St. Martin's-place, Trafalgar-square; R. M. Westmacott, F.G.S. and M.R.G.S. (late of the colony), South Audley-street; W. H. Rough, M.A., Dulwich; and J. Wynne, Paris.—H. GUEDELLA: Brighton, August 7.*

**C. T. S. (Skinner-street).**—The charge was most exorbitant; the machinery must have been of great value, when only to inspect it, and have the use of it in a country where no patents are allowed, 500s. was demanded, more especially when it was not known whether it would answer the purposes it was required for; but it is generally the case, patents invariably have a greater idea of the merit of their inventions than others, and hence, from this inflated notion, in too many instances, injure their interests.

**START BAY SLATE QUARRY.**—Sir: In 1850 a prospectus was issued for this undertaking, with Messrs. T. Campbell, G. Burgess, H. S. Laycock, F. Todd, and W. A. Davidson, as the committee of management. Can any of your readers inform me of the state of the works; if any accounts have been furnished to the shareholders, &c.; and what are the prospects?—*Isquima: Kentish-town, Aug. 10.*

**A. H. (London).**—We have always opposed the payment of dividends out of capital. In this particular instance, the evils complained of may be of greater magnitude; but it is the duty of every shareholder to investigate the accounts, and those who receive a dividend without doing so, have surely no right to complain that others are in the same category. While so much dishonesty of purpose and chicanery exists, as at present, it is impossible to protect the public, unless they will use what every one is supposed to possess—common sense.

**T. B. H. (Broad-street).**—The mines in Derbyshire are not governed by the Statutory Laws, they are in general regulated by the Customs of the High Peak. Out of the profits of the Eton Mine, it is stated that one of the Dukes of Devonshire built Burton-crescent.

**PENINSULAR AND IBERIAN MINING COMPANIES.**—Sir: Many shareholders in these undertakings have been complaining through your Journal of the depreciation which has so suddenly and, to them, unaccountably taken place in the value of the property. Permit me to inform them that the chairman of these companies is also chairman of the New South Wales Coal and Inter-Colonial Steam Navigation, the office of which is at the same place (77, Cornhill). Into the proceedings of the latter company a committee of investigation has been appointed, to examine into the charges made against the board of management generally. The report of this committee will very shortly be published, when the shareholders of the Peninsular and Iberian Companies will, in all probability, have no longer cause to wonder how it is that their shares have been reduced to their present price in the market.—*A SHAREHOLDER: City, Aug. 10.*

**Tyro (Liverpool).**—Titaniferous oxydulated iron is a combination of protoxide of iron, with the oxide of titanium, in very different proportions. One variety from Auvergne yielded—iron 52, titanium 13, and manganese 5; while in others the proportion of titanium is much larger, and it is difficult to draw any line of demarcation between this variety and menacianite.

**C. W. (Hoxton).**—In the reign of John V. of Portugal, a friar presented to that monarch the model of an aerial ship; but it was never tried. While steam and locomotion by sea and land have progressed since the first discovery of balloons, the science of navigating the air has made no progress. Some of our greatest aeronauts of the present day, and who have made many ascents, state that, owing to the non-resistance, it is impossible to navigate a balloon. Though parachutes have descended in safety with sand bags, yet, whenever a man has attempted, almost invariably loss of life has ensued. We need not here recur to the dreadful accident at Tottenham lately, which is of recent occurrence that recapitulation is unnecessary.

**Revels—A Newcastle Pitman.**—"An Old Miner" (Goldsmithy) "Long Tom," &c.

### THE COMMERCIAL NEWSPAPER PRESS.

The publication by Government of the number of stamps issued to the respective Newspapers affords a fitting opportunity to acknowledge the very ample patronage we have received for our endeavours to make the MINING JOURNAL worthy of public support.

The steady progress in Circulation is the best evidence of appreciation; while the considerable increase of our Correspondents, in all parts of the world, shows that the interest in the objects to which the MINING JOURNAL, RAILWAY AND COMMERCIAL GAZETTE, is more particularly devoted is not confined to this country; and the repeated assurances of approval we receive, lead to the fair expectation that, as the same spirited and independent system of management is pursued, we may well rely on a continuous increase of our supporters and circulation.

The following list will show that the number published of the MINING JOURNAL surpasses that of the entire Railway press:—

Newspapers.	1851.	1852.	1853.
MINING JOURNAL.....	118,750	147,000	200,032
RAILWAY TIMES.....	86,530	81,000	85,300
HERAPATH'S JOURNAL.....	119,100	121,004	82,152
RAILWAY RECORD.....	24,350	25,300	19,475
RAILWAY GAZETTE.....	7,900	7,500	4,500
	241,880	235,004	194,427
MINING JOURNAL.....	118,750	147,000	200,032

The other Commercial Newspapers may be thus classed,—also showing the circulation of the MINING JOURNAL to be considerably more than all of them put together:—

Newspapers.	1851.	1852.	1853.
LONDON COMMERCIAL RECORD...	36,300	35,600	41,250
THE REPORTER.....	24,881	12,075	32,550
JOURNAL OF COMMERCE.....	23,000	21,000	27,500
LONDON MERCANTILE JOURNAL..	17,500	19,300	15,500
THE MERCHANT.....	23,000	18,000	14,000
	124,688	105,975	130,800
MINING JOURNAL.....	118,750	147,000	200,032

\* It is particularly requested that all communications may be addressed—  
To the Editor,  
Mining Journal Office,  
26, FLEET-STREET, LONDON.  
Post-office orders made payable to Wm. Salmon Mansell, as acting for the proprietors.

## THE MINING JOURNAL

Railway and Commercial Gazette.

LONDON, AUGUST 12, 1854.

A special report from Sir CHARLES LYELL, on the geological, topographical, and hydrographical departments of the Industrial Exhibition at New York, which he had been deputed to visit as Special Commissioner from Great Britain, has been presented to Parliament by command of her MAJESTY, and is now published. Sir CHARLES LYELL complains that the objects of his mission had been less fully accomplished than he could have wished, owing to defective arrangements in respect of the collections of mineral and mining products, and of the geological and geographical maps forwarded to the Exhibition. This is the more to be regretted, as we had been led to anticipate, from the prospectus of the New York Association for the Exhibition of the Industry of All Nations, that much information would have been afforded by the mineralogical and geological surveys in progress, and by the display of numerous specimens, derived from each mining and mineral region; and further, that the collections would have been accompanied and illustrated by perfect maps and sections, and also by complete mining plans. The report endeavours to reconcile us to the disappointment which it expresses on these points, in reference to the Exhibition, by remarking, that "when we regard the immense territory of the United States, the incipient condition of many of the mining operations, and the difficulty of interesting parties immediately connected therewith, we are more surprised at the extent and variety of objects presented, than disposed to dwell on deficiencies observable in the collections, which have been brought together and arranged within a few months."

The mining products which formed the most prominent features of that department of the Exhibition consisted of the different varieties of coal and metallic substances. The coal and iron ore were derived chiefly from the Eastern or Alleghany coal field; the lead from limestone and other rocks of Silurian age, as well as from the metamorphic formations; the zinc from the rocks of the latter character in New Jersey; and the copper from the similar regions in the eastern part of the States, but chiefly from the sandstone and trap district of Lake Superior. In the existing condition of the States, mining operations are, according to the report, for the most part in their infancy, beyond mining operations in coal and iron ore; and perhaps copper and lead may be now added. The mining enterprises hitherto undertaken have been more the result of chance and speculation, than of any systematic effort to develop the mineral resources of the country; it consequently happens that the districts in which metallic products of value may be looked for are but little known beyond their general geological features, and a few attractive or accidentally discovered localities of mineral wealth. Sir CHARLES observes, that in considering the industrial resources of a country of such vast extent, and which is still in its infancy, a juster idea of its capabilities can be formed by studying its leading physical and geological features, than by examining collections of its minerals and rocks in any place of exhibition. Gold is found in the eastern States, or those on the eastern side of the Appalachian chain, occurring in the alluvial and drift formations, and derived from the destruction of certain auriferous metamorphic rocks. The gold-bearing drift extends from the northern limits of the States, in Vermont and New Hampshire, along the Green Mountain range, through the south-eastern part of New York, over the eastern flank of the Appalachian chain, to Georgia and Alabama. Gold has been obtained from the drift, in considerable quantities, in Georgia, North and South Carolina, and Virginia, but it has not been wrought for gold further north within the limits of the States, although it has long attracted attention in the same direction in Canada, and a considerable quantity of gold has been obtained from washings on the Chaudiere River. In California, the gold-bearing alluvium is derived from rocks of similar character: these auriferous sands and gravels are very extensively distributed; and the collections in the Exhibition showed samples of gold from nearly 200 different washings or localities in California alone.

Magnetic iron sand is a very general accompaniment of the same drift in the vicinity of mountain ranges; it has not, however, been applied to economic uses. Bog iron ore is almost universal, though in quantities to be valuable only in comparatively few places. The carbonates and peroxides of iron occur in the coal fields, which contain rich deposits of those ores. In Pennsylvania and Ohio, where they are wrought to a greater extent than elsewhere, the beds appear to be inexhaustible, and will supply, for an indefinite period, the requirements of advancing physical improvement and civilisation. In Tennessee, Alabama, and Western Virginia, the coal formation abounds in iron ores; in the western coal field there is far less iron manufactured than in the east. The geological survey of Illinois, now in progress, has already shown that this state is richly supplied with iron ore in the midst of its inexhaustible coal fields, although there are as yet but two furnaces in that state. The iron ores from the coal formation, presented at the Exhibition, were principally from Pennsylvania. The red shale formation in that state has a thickness of 2949 feet at Pottsville, and extends in a broad belt along the eastern margin of the coal fields. The ores of the red shale are chiefly carbonates of iron, with variable proportions of silica, alumina, &c.; they yield from 60 to 80 per cent. of carbonate of iron, and some of them give peroxide of iron in about the same proportion. The collection exhibited from Pennsylvania comprised the ore and furnace products—viz., ore, coal, slag, pig-iron, as well as manufactured iron; ores from geological formations below the coal, and occurring in the midst of the coal fields, having been exhibited in company with the coals by which they were smelted.

It is well known that the Americans set a far higher value on anthracite than on bituminous coals, although the United States are rich in vast coal fields of both descriptions. The anthracite basins of Pennsylvania

produce coal of that character of a superior quality, and from its accessibility, it furnishes a large portion of the fossil fuel now used in the towns and cities of the Atlantic coast. A specimen of anthracite coal, of enormous size, from the Mammoth vein, Wilkesbarre, Pennsylvania, was presented to the Exhibition by the citizens of that town, showing a vertical section of the vein, being a shaft, 5 feet square at the base, 30 feet high, and weighing 60 tons. Several other large masses—one 10 feet long by 4 ft. wide, and 3½ ft. high—were exhibited, from the same locality, with specimens of the same bed from other places. Coals from the Carbonade and Pittstown Mine, a collection of about 60 varieties of anthracite from the Schuylkill County, were also presented, with specimens of bituminous coal from Pennsylvania, accompanying samples of iron ore, and likewise from Maryland, in large masses, showing the thickness of beds, 11 and 15 feet respectively. Some of the coal seams are underlain with beds of fire-clay, of greater or less thickness; and in some parts there are extensive beds of fire-clay not directly associated with coal seams, but they are everywhere co-extensive with the great coal fields. The iron ores of the coal formation, with their accompanying mineral fuel, are distributed more or less abundantly over an area exceeding 160,000 square miles; we are, from this extent, enabled to form some faint conception of their vast amount, and of the important results of their influence on the future industrial interests and prospects of such a country as the United States.

Galena, and the carbonate, sulphate, and phosphate of lead, have been found, but their economic value has not been as yet fully tested; and the sulphurets of lead occur in considerable quantities in some of the copper mines recently opened in Maryland. The lead-bearing rock, or "galena limestone," of Wisconsin, Northern Illinois, Iowa, and part of Missouri, is a lower Silurian limestone, which has yielded immense quantities of lead ore for many years past. The products of a lead mine now wrought in the Shawangunk Mountain, in Ulster County, are galena, copper pyrites, and a small quantity of blende; and this mine has yielded some remarkably large masses of galena, one of which weighed 16,000 pounds. Native silver occurs in Davidson County and other counties in North Carolina. The native copper contains a small amount of native silver; and recently a vein of silver has been wrought upon the north shore of Lake Superior, specimens of which were shown in the Exhibition.

Veins or lodes of sulphuret or carbonate of copper occur in the lead region, particularly at Mineral Point, Wisconsin, where they were formerly worked, but proved unprofitable; and they have been likewise found in Missouri. Metallic copper occurs mainly in the trap rocks, and the copper ores, running through sandstone and conglomerate, are not worked. Sulphurets and carbonates of copper occur in the gold regions of Virginia and North Carolina, and in the same formation in Maryland. Native copper in large quantities is obtained from the trap rocks of the Lake Superior; and numerous mines have been opened on the south shore of that lake. The copper is met with, in sheets of greater or less thickness, in veins cutting the trap range nearly at right angles, and associated with various vein stones. These sheets of copper vary in extent, weighing from a few pounds to 80 tons; while the produce of copper from the mines of Lake Superior during the past year will reach 4000 or 5000 tons. A mass of native copper in the Exhibition, from one of these mines, weighed 6300 pounds; it was cut from a mass weighing 40 tons, and the thickness between the two natural surfaces was more than two feet.

A vein or bed of sulphuret of zinc, within the state of New York, has been somewhat extensively wrought. Zinc blende often occurs with the lead ores, and the red oxide of zinc and franklinite are found in New Jersey. The red oxide is largely employed in the manufacture of the white oxide of zinc, and the mixture of this ore with the franklinite, ground in oil in its natural state, forms a brown paint much in use. The franklinite has been of late successfully employed in a process by which the oxide of zinc is obtained, and the iron reduced, both operations being accomplished by the same furnace. Tin ore (oxide of tin) has been found in New Hampshire, and it also, in small quantities, accompanies the gold in Virginia and North Carolina.

We have, in the above summary, submitted to our readers the leading features of this report, which we believe furnishes as much information as was practicable on the present mining condition of the United States. Our knowledge of the mineral treasures of the North American continent must continue incomplete until the geological surveys of the several states are perfected. Within the last twenty years, eight have been commenced and completed; others are in progress, by legislative authority, in fifteen states. Sir CHARLES LYELL regrets that, during these geological surveys, a system of triangulation had not been adopted, by which means the topography and geology could have been laid down at the same time. An unavoidable consequence of this neglect, indicating a want of high scientific knowledge, the surveys are deficient and imperfect, inasmuch as the geological maps cannot present in detail the exact limits and variations of outline in the several geological formations, nor the physical features dependent on geological agencies. We are the more surprised at this deficiency, as the system adopted in the trigonometrical surveys of Great Britain and Ireland, so admirably accomplished by the corps of sappers and miners, under our Board of Ordnance, ought to have been familiar to the American engineers. Massachusetts would appear to be the only state which has as yet undertaken a trigonometrical survey of its territory; and this was independent of, or rather subsequent to, its geographical survey. We cannot avoid, with Sir CHARLES LYELL, expressing our astonishment that a people who are straining every energy for physical advancement, should have hitherto so neglected a subject of such vast economic and national importance.

Although a great discrepancy of opinion exists between some of our correspondents as to the mode in which our present waste sulphur should be treated, yet it is a source of some satisfaction to us that at the time the KING OF NAPLES prohibited the exportation of that article from his dominions, the remarks we felt called upon to make have excited some interest in those who are concerned in the several manufactures in which that valuable commodity is a necessary ingredient. Of the sulphur hitherto received from Sicily more than one-half has been taken by Great Britain, and on account of its freedom from arsenic and other deleterious admixtures, has been greatly prized. Although this may possibly be worked at a cheaper rate than that obtained from our own resources, yet when we consider the supply may at any time be cut off at the will of a capricious and absolute monarch of a petty state, it behoves us to see if science and energy may not prevent these eventualities, and render us totally independent of foreign supplies; and we cannot conceive, looking to the vast improvements that have taken place in chemical knowledge since the commencement of the present century, but that some means may be devised, though at a greater cost than hitherto practised, which will enable our chemists to render the product equally pure from pyrites as that obtained from volcanic sulphur. At Solfatara the ores are easily melted and got rid of all earthy matter; in Saxony and Bohemia, 900 parts of the sulphurets return from 100 to 150 parts of sulphur; at Fahlun, in Sweden, and Goslar, in the Harz, not more than 1 to 2 parts of sulphur are obtained from 100 of pyriteous ores, yet it leaves a profit; and the process used at these places is most extravagant, it being burnt instead of sublimated, which accounts for the great loss. The residuum in Sweden is, however, turned to account, being used as a pigment to colour houses, and this is the common red colour so noticed by travellers in Scandinavia as predominating on all wooden buildings in that peninsula.

At the time of the Great Exhibition it was calculated, from the smelting of the copper ores alone, that about 1000 tons of sulphur were lost weekly, and the value of this, if collected, would realise annually 1,300,000l. Whether these estimates can be borne out we are not prepared to avouch, but admitting they are not correct, which we have no means of arriving at, giving a wide margin, and only assuming that one-half was wasted, it will be seen that still a large amount of property, under the present defective method of smelting, is sacrificed. The several manufactures into which sulphur enters are patent to our readers, and it is useless here to enter into a disquisition of its merits; sulphuric acid, it is well-known, is the primary agent of nearly all the others, it being required to disengage them from their saline combinations, and from this fact it is the most useful of all acids. It unites in the composition of alum, and its bleaching qualities are a matter of notoriety.

We have our manufactories for sulphuric acid, and could obtain this if we choose without any foreign supply. The Wicklow and Conway mines are now raising sulphur, but why should not the sulphur of our mundic ores be saved, instead of, as is the case now, being allowed to evaporate, as can be witnessed by any one who has sojourned for a few brief hours in Swansea. Notwithstanding our practical and mercantile character, it cannot be denied that we rather prefer to develop adventures abroad than to look after our own resources at home; this is not only the characteristic of those connected with mining and metallurgy, as may be seen

from the Exeter Hall frequenters, who largely subscribe to diffuse the gospel among the negroes at Sierra Leone, while they disregard the pariahs of St. Giles's, at their own doors; and the same observation may be applied to nearly every other class in the country. We have shown, and our correspondents have concurred with us, that a large field is opened for British industry, if instead of wasting our sulphur, as has hitherto been the case in too many instances, it was applied to some useful purposes. We do not profess to dictate how this desideratum is to be brought about, whether by smelters or chemists; we opine, however, that if the two were cordially to conjoin, an easy solution of the question would be arrived at. The processes used abroad are well known, and probably some hints might be gained from these which would be useful here; we trust, now the question has elicited such general interest, that not a long period will elapse before we shall see the manufacture of pure sulphur carried into operation.

The very important decision of the House of Lords in the recent case of *PATTERSON v. WALLACE*, so fully noticed in our last Journal, has been, we perceive, already referred to, and the law laid down by it adopted by Justice O'CONNOR, in the case of *PREL v. GREENWOOD*, tried before him at Lancaster Assizes on Tuesday last. It was an action brought by *ELLIS PREL*, a workman in the employment of Messrs. GREENWOOD and Co., owners of a cotton mill near Colne, as an engine tender, at 15s. a week wages, a part of whose duty was to oil the machinery of the mill. The main shaft from the engine turned a number of drums, and by means of cog-wheels a cross shaft was made to turn other machinery, and it was the plaintiff's duty to oil those cog-wheels in their sockets. This had formerly been done while the engine was at rest, and the men at breakfast; but it was alleged by the plaintiff that one of the defendants had complained that the oil was wasted by this method, and ran over the shaft, and that he had in consequence insisted on having the wheels oiled while the works were in motion. The plaintiff also alleged that the wheels were only partially boxed off, that a ladder had not been provided to reach the sockets of the wheels, nor a funnel into which to pour the oil, and that in consequence he had to get upon the power looms to oil the centres, steadying himself by the shaft in motion. While so engaged, on the 6th Jan. last, at seven in the morning, the shaft on which his right arm leaned carried his coat sleeve up to the cog-wheels, into which it got; his hand was, consequently, drawn in, and nearly crushed, and it had to be amputated the next day. The plaintiff, who was himself examined, stated that he had repeatedly made complaints that there were no funnels to the sockets of the wheels, so as to enable him to oil them without danger, and that one of the defendants had said to him, "Thou must mind them as well as thou can, and I will get them in a day or two."

At the close of the plaintiff's case, it was objected that there was no evidence to go to the jury; but the learned Judge referred to the recent case of *PATTERSON v. WALLACE* in the House of Lords, which decided that it was the duty of an employer to take all reasonable care, and it was a question for the jury whether the defendants had properly boxed off, and rendered their machinery sufficiently secure.

For the defence, it was then proved that an oil can, fitted to the end of a long stick, had been provided for oiling these wheels; when used it was perfectly easy to oil them without danger, and that they had been so oiled by the person who succeeded the plaintiff. It was insisted that the accident had occurred through the plaintiff's own foolishness and indiscretion, in his attempting to clean the cog-wheels when in motion—a duty which he ought to have done when the mill was standing on a holiday, but which he had not done, in order to take the holiday himself. It was also proved that since the accident the defendants had offered the plaintiff 6s. a week to do what he could about the mill, and that they had paid his doctor's bill—5*l.* 6*s.* The jury, after a long absence, found for the defendants.

We repeat that the law, as now settled by the highest tribunal in the empire, imposed upon employers an imperative duty of seeing beforehand that their machinery and coal mines are in such a state, before they set persons to work, that there is at least no apparent prospect of danger to the lives of the men they employ. Prudent circumspection on their part, while it will tend to relieve the men in their establishments from risk, will probably ultimately prove advantageous to themselves, by protecting them from the expenses which generally attend fatal occurrences.

A case of some importance to persons who had connected themselves with the formation of joint-stock companies in this country, and after gone abroad, recently came before the Lords Justices of Appeal in Equity, and is worthy of notice, as showing the position of such parties under the Winding-up Act. We allude to the case of the *Direct Exeter, Plymouth, and Devonport Railway Company*, and the *Joint-Stock Winding-up Act*, *ex parte* *D'URBAN*, which was decided in that court on the 2d of June last. The company was projected in September, 1845, and the present applicant, Colonel (then Major) *D'URBAN*, was one of the promoters; the company having been registered on the 19th of that month, he became one of the provisional committee, and also one of the committee of management, consisting of seven members. On the 13th of October, in that year, an account was opened with the bankers, and an authority signed by Colonel *D'URBAN*, and eight other persons, was lodged with the bank, desiring them to honour the drafts of the chairman, countersigned by the secretary, to the amount of 2000*l.* On the 30th of Dec., 1846, Colonel *D'URBAN* left this country on her *MAJESTY'S* service, for Barbadoes, and subsequently went with his regiment to Canada. The scheme having turned out a failure, and Colonel *D'URBAN* being anxious to be relieved from further liability, instructed his solicitor to protest against further expense, declaring at the same time his readiness to pay one-seventh of the liabilities; and in order to be relieved from further claims, he paid at the time 283*l.* 7*s.* 10*d.*

On the 8th of June, 1849, an order was obtained for winding-up the affairs of the company. Col. *D'URBAN* being abroad, previous to placing his name on the list of contributories, a notice was, on May 21, 1850, sent through the post-office, addressed Newport, near Exeter, the last known residence of Colonel *D'URBAN* in England, and another to his solicitor, that his case would be proceeded with; and on the 27th of the same month the Master placed his name on the list of contributories. On the 16th of June, the Master gave notice that he should, on the 26th of that month, make a call on Colonel *D'URBAN* for 515*l.* 18*s.* 6*d.*, and notice of that call was, on the 19th, sent in the same manner through the post-office, and a peremptory order for payment of that sum to the official manager, on the 17th of July, was also similarly served. Two further calls were subsequently made, the notices and orders having been served in the same manner, the colonel still remaining on foreign service. A peremptory order to pay up his balance on the 9th Aug., 1853, was served in the same form, and a duplicate of it was at the same time addressed, through the post-office, to Colonel *D'URBAN*, &c., Montreal, Upper Canada. It appeared that none of the notices had been returned through the dead-letter office; and on the 9th of August, 1853, the Master made a final adjudication that Colonel *D'URBAN* should, within four days after notice thereof, pay the sum of 609*l.* 3*s.* 6*d.*, being the balance in respect of all the calls appearing to be due by him in his account with the company. Colonel *D'URBAN* returned to England in the month of August, 1853, and on the 14th of September the notice of the last order was duly served upon him. On the 25th of November, 1853, Colonel *D'URBAN* moved, before Vice-Chancellor STUART, to discharge or vary the order of the 9th of August, on the ground that the preceding orders, on the non-compliance with which it was grounded, had not been duly served on him under the 103th section of the Winding-up Act, 1848, and his honour, being of that opinion, discharged the order.

Colonel *D'URBAN* then moved, before the Lords Justices, to discharge the previous orders, and the application stood over from the 11th of May, thus affording to him an opportunity of investigating the circumstances under which the calls had been made. The Court, after hearing the case fully argued, on giving judgment, said it had been decided by authority, which was now clearly binding on them, that if a number of persons associated together to form a company, which would come under the Winding-up Act if formed, such an association, although the company had never been formed, is, nevertheless, liable to be wound-up under the Acts, not as an association to form the company, but as the company itself. The Court had, therefore, only two questions to determine—first, whether Col. *D'URBAN* was a contributory; and, secondly, whether, if so, he was not liable to pay these calls. It was considered perfectly clear that he had placed himself in the position of a contributory, for he was originally a member of the managing committee, and authorised the bankers to advance 2000*l.* on the credit of the company; he is, therefore, liable to the calls which were made for the purpose of defraying the winding-up expenses. They were also of opinion that the requisitions of the Act, whether reasonable or not, as to giving notice, had been sufficiently complied

with; and an opportunity had been afforded, by the case being allowed to stand over, to Col. *D'URBAN* to investigate the circumstances, with an understanding that if upon the merits he could show good grounds for not being held liable, he should have the same benefits as if he had appealed in time. He was not, therefore, damaged by the want of notice; he had shown no reason why he should not be liable, or that the expenses had been improperly incurred; and if any persons were clearly liable to pay them, Colonel *D'URBAN* was one. The application, therefore, was dismissed, with costs.

In our last Journal we alluded to the discovery of coal and ironstone in the county of Northampton, and drew attention to two companies projected for the development of those resources, one of them being the Northamptonshire Great Central Coal Mining Company, and the other the *Duston Iron Ore Company*. At the same time, we expressed a hope that, as these two associations appeared to be formed for a legitimate purpose, if circumstances warranted it, they would be carried out.

Northamptonshire has easy access to the metropolis, both by canal and railroad, and, as far as regards transport, no county is better favoured; but, notwithstanding these advantages, it appears that great doubt yet exists whether coal, good and workable, exists in Northamptonshire. In our Journal of the 11th June, 1836, there appeared a prospectus of the Northampton Union Coal and Mining Company, with a capital of 18,000*l.*, divided into 6000 shares of 3*l.* each, and promising to return a profit of 150 per cent. in the first year. Two Staffordshire colliers, of the names of STANFIELD and LINFORD, had examined the coal field of the company, and reported them to be identical in mineral structure with those of South Staffordshire. On the 15th of June, in that same year, Mr. FREDERICK BURK, the eminent geologist, addressed a letter to us, in which he stated, that to find coals, it was not only required that there should be a mere similarity of mineral structure, but likewise of geological position; that good and workable seams of coal occur only in particular locations, denominated "coal measures." Though these are found only in this particular stratification, yet carbonaceous matter is found extended over a wider space, anthracite being found in the slaty rocks below the coal measure, and lignite, or wood coal, in the oolitic rocks above the coal measures, as well as in other rocks still higher in the series. These appearances are, however, of little value, as only tending to deceive, and causing a fruitless expenditure of capital wastefully.

In Northamptonshire, the greater and lower oolite formations occasionally contain beds of lignite; but, to obtain coal, it is required that they should sink very deep, and even then, when sinking through the sandy portion of the lower oolite, some of the beds, from their want of cohesion and their looseness, are likely to cause much expense; and even when reaching the clayey and retentive strata of the lias, an immense influx of water may be expected, requiring most powerful machinery to draw it to the surface. We have not been able to give in detail the whole of Mr. BURK's opinions, but the above are the most salient points. In our Journal of the 25th March, 1837, will be found an account of the erection of the engine, which was named the "Wonder." The subsequent history of the company is so well known that it needs no recapitulation here.

The shaft at Kingsthorpe has already been sunk to a depth of 160 fathoms, and was obliged to be suspended, owing to an inadequacy of capital, and the great influx of saline water. It is now proposed to resume this, and Mr. JOSEPH HOLDSWORTH has given his opinion that it can be done profitably and remuneratively to those embarking their capital in the undertaking.

If these minerals really exist in the county of Northampton, both by rail and canal they have the readiest means of disposing of them; and manufacturing operations can be conducted there on as economical a scale as in any other province of the kingdom.

We are gratified to see that capital is about to be employed in developing our home resources. There is a great field here, and better hopes of profitable returns than in dubious foreign schemes, where, owing to distance, and want of local knowledge, the shareholders cannot exercise an efficient supervision over the superintendents. We have always recommended caution to those embarking in mining adventures. With regard to the existence of coal and ironstone in Northamptonshire, there appear to be conflicting opinions. The district is within a few hours of London; and those who have the competent knowledge can now judge for themselves; if not so endowed, trustworthy agents can be employed at a small expense. If they neglect these precautions, do not let them, as has been the case with several shareholders of the gold mining companies, querulously complain to the *Mining Journal* that they have been deceived, when, in a great measure, it has been owing to their own want of caution, cupidity, and recklessness. Let them remember the wise saying, that "forewarned is forearmed."

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]

It is a most unfortunate circumstance that mining adventures are so frequently the cloak under which the most systematic and heartless schemes of fraud are matured and carried into operation. This state of things is much to be deplored, as it produces in the minds of many prejudice against all mining adventures; while the truth is, that taken as a whole, even including the fraudulent ones as a set off, no other channel of investment is more remunerative. In addition to this, mining enterprise is one of the main props of our commercial prosperity as a country; for by it we are enabled to search the bowels of the earth, and obtain those metals and mineral products upon which our manufactures are altogether dependent; and, moreover, it gives labour directly and indirectly to a vast number of the miners, mechanics, and other members of the working classes, in this pre-eminently mineral land.

On these latter grounds alone, independent of its remunerative value, mining adventure deserves our consideration and assistance; and those most averse to mining speculation cannot but admit that if it were not for the bold and adventurous spirit of some amongst us, trade would be brought to a stand still, and a commercial crisis of the worst description would inevitably ensue. Notwithstanding this, the bad opinion with which mining is generally regarded (in the cause of which opinion so much of the risk of mining adventure really rests), keeps great numbers of our best business men aloof from this kind of speculation altogether, and thus, comparatively speaking, the conduct of its affairs is left in the hands of those who are either grossly incompetent, or who, possessing the ability, only abuse it to subvert their own dishonest ends. Let it not, however, be supposed that there are no good men and true amongst our mine managers and pursers. This would be quite untrue, because it is well known that this community numbers amongst its members men as respectable, honest, and capable, as does any other portion of the commercial body. When, therefore, we speak of the conduct of mining business being in the hands of incompetent or dishonest men, we speak not of *all* but *a part*, that part being, however, the one with which parties resident in the provinces remote from mining districts are unfortunately most acquainted. It is in those provinces that the professed mining swindler succeeds best. It is there that the glowing prospectus, filled with promises of the most improbable but most desirable prospects, is greedily devoured and implicitly believed. It is there, in short, where the sharper lays hold of the greatest amount of prey amongst the unsuspecting and the careless, and sometimes amongst the suspecting and the careful too. After all such considerations as these, the question naturally arises—is the evil irremediable? And the as natural reply is—that it is remediable. Most of our readers believe this; but we and they are not quite agreed as to what the remedy is, or, in other words, what the best means are for overcoming this great evil. Many schemes having this end in view have been propounded; but they have either not been prosecuted, or, if prosecuted at all, have not been persevered in long enough to do any good. It may, therefore, appear to be "hoping against hope," to suggest any other plan; but still, in the anticipation that ours may be beneficial, if not in eradicating, in lessening the evil, we will not hesitate to state it. The great reason why so many worthless adventures have been foisted on the public, to the incalculable damage of mining generally, and to the great hurt and loss of the unfortunate speculators therein particularly, is that the untrue and ridiculously absurd statements made by the promoters of them, and the mining captains in their pay, that have been received as the truth, whereas they have invariably, from beginning to end, been neither more nor less than a tissue of falsehoods. It, therefore, seems to us that the weak point to be first strengthened (and to which alone we shall on this occasion direct attention) is the want of means for readily and cheaply ascertaining the truth of the statements put forth in all prospectuses of mining companies from time to time. It is upon these that parties are induced to embark their capital; and it is evident that if one could be satisfied as to the truth or untruth of them, much good might be done and harm prevented. In the present state of things, the only way to ascer-

tain this, or to get any definite information in the matter, is to engage some mining agent, at an expense varying in accordance with the position he holds in the mining world, the time he is occupied, and the distance he has to go. But very few mining speculators ever think of calling in a competent mining agent before they purchase shares; and in the case of those residing in towns remote from mining districts, even if they did think of it, they would have so much difficulty in ascertaining whose report they could depend upon, that the thought would invariably never be acted upon.

It is, therefore, apparent that some remedy is required; and we would suggest the following:—That the Government should establish (by law, and perhaps in connection with the Museum of Economic Geology, &c.) a Mining Companies' Record Office, in which should be registered the prospectuses of every new company for working mines in Great Britain or Ireland, published to the world. That the best geologists and practical mining agents in the kingdom should be engaged, as far as possible, in connection with this office, and one or more should inspect and report upon every mine brought before public notice, and proposed to be worked by public subscription; such report to be filed at the aforesaid office, and be readily accessible to every applicant; and that copies thereof should be obtainable on payment of a small fee, sufficient, however, to cover the actual expenses attending the making of it. In this office, as has been already suggested in a previous Number of the *Mining Journal*, should also be registered the plans of the workings of all mines given up, together with the causes of their stoppage, and much other useful information relating to mines, which at present is either lost altogether or preserved in a very unsatisfactory manner. Were the plan we propose adopted, much capital would be saved from misappropriation, for some approach to the truth at the very least could always be arrived at. The consequence would be that mining pursuits would begin to assume a more respectable and legitimate appearance, business men would be more frequently than at present interested in them as adventurers; more valuable mines would be worked and worthless ones let alone than now; and the ultimate result could not fail to be one of a highly beneficial and practically useful nature.

An interesting paper was read at a recent meeting of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, at Birmingham, by Mr. ARCHIBALD SLADE, of Dudley, on a Safety Apparatus for working Mine Shafts, the invention of Mr. WILLIAM ENGLAND, of that town. The attention of the inventor had been for a long time directed to the insecurity of the ordinary mode of raising men engaged in mining operations, from which many serious and fatal accidents had resulted by the breaking of machinery, and running of chains and ropes. No effectual mode had hitherto been successfully adopted, the machinery suggested for the purpose, even where the expense did not present an insuperable barrier to its general adoption, being either so cumbersome or complex as to offer serious impediments to its practical utility. The present plan was designed and intended to secure perfect safety in all cases of ascending and descending shafts, by easy and economic means; and Mr. ENGLAND exhibited a working model of the apparatus, and explained its action. He observed that the construction was very simple, without having recourse to any expensive materials or workmanship, and that it had been a peculiar object with him to keep it free from any objection as to complication, or difficulty of repair. Any repairs which might be required could easily be effected by the pitman himself, the only materials made use of being ordinary bar-iron and timber, all of which might be at any time applied to other purposes.

The apparatus consists of a square tube, running all down the mine shaft, the sides formed of two pieces of deal, or other wood, 3 inches thick by 10 inches wide, united at the back by a piece of wrought-iron or hard wood, or a combination of both, 1 foot in width, strongly bolted to the side pieces. On the front of each of the side pieces is fixed, by screws, a strip of wrought-iron,  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch wide,  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch thick, leaving an opening in the centre,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch wide, the entire length of the tube. The tube is made in lengths of 20 to 25 feet, and is supported by cast-iron half-ring stays; the end of each ring, towards the tube, is T-shaped, forming a support for the foot of each length, a broad flange securing them by screws at the side, and the ends of these stays are wedged in to the brick-work of the shaft. A piston, formed of two pieces of hard wood, works in the tube, with a space left in the centre to receive parallel-motion bars, connected with the outer frame or bracket. The tube is affixed to a stage or moving platform over the shaft, and the chain runs inside the tube, attached to an iron arm, also affixed to the platform. Two friction-bars, of wood, lie outside the square tube, one on each side, 9 inches wide and 3 inches thick; there are then parallel-motion bars, and joints to connect the piston with the friction-bars, and carried on to the centre support of the platform, which is stayed by diagonal struts. The effect of the snapping of the chain is to bring the bracket and piston together; and the chain, when broken, is stopped in its descent by the friction between the front plate of the tube, the piston, and the friction-bars. There is this important advantage—that the chain cannot descend into the pit, but is always retained in the tube, thus obviating the necessity of bonnets and strong unwieldy cages for the protection of the men. Lighter chains may be most advantageously substituted, and as they are retained in an uniform position whilst at work in the tube, and not being subjected to rotary or twisting movements, by which they are now tried, the plan proposed must tend considerably to their preservation. For shafts out of the perpendicular, where ordinary guides cannot be used, the invention appeared to be well adapted, the tube being sufficient to secure steady working; and when applied, it would tend to prevent the loss at present arising from the quantity of coal broken by oscillation, and contact with the sides of the shaft. It was considered that security was thus afforded to the men in going to and returning from their work; men and materials could even be raised and lowered at the same time; the working was not liable to derangement, appeared to require no further overlooking or attention than could be given by the ordinary engineer; and when the apparatus had performed its duty in one pit, it could easily be removed to another. The weight of the stage, bracket, and piston, was estimated by the inventor at about 7 cwt., the cost of applying it at not more than 15*s.* per yard; and the annual expense of working it less than 5 per cent. upon the outlay. When the saving to be effected in the repairing of the shaft, and the loss from slack occasioned by the present mode, were duly estimated, considerable deductions would, it was conceived, have to be made from these calculations; but whatever might be the pecuniary advantages arising from it, the main object of the proposed invention was the security of the miner in his hazardous employment.

The explanation of the model led to an interesting discussion. Mr. SLADE observed, that although many ingenious plans had been devised, this had one advantage over the others, which appeared deserving of consideration—namely, in keeping hold of the chain during the entire descent, thus securing it from falling into the pit in case of breakage. In the ordinary plan there is great risk of accident to the men from the chain breaking, and falling upon their heads when near the bottom, although strong bonnets were employed to shelter them; but, by the mode proposed, the chain would be guided in the tube or channel all the way down. In order to prevent particles of the coal slack getting into the groove, or the piston getting jammed in drawing up, from an accumulation of dirt or grit, it was proposed to cover the front of the groove by an iron plate, sliding with the platform, long enough to prevent anything from falling in; and it was intended that the piston should fit quite loosely, so as not to leave any liability to get jammed.

It was objected that the constant friction of the piston against the side of the tube would be serious, and would, from the overhanging weight of the platform, cause great wear, as well as a liability to interfere with the regular working; and, as the platform acted as a bent level, the point of suspension being the fulcrum, that there would be a constant pressure upon the side of the piston through the whole period of ascending and descending, the friction of which, with a heavy load on the platform, might actually stop it in descending. This was answered by the inventor—that a friction-roller was fixed at the bottom of the piston, to roll up and down against the back of the tube, where the whole pressure would take place; that the length of the piston was intended to be considerably greater than the projection of the platform, in order to diminish the leverage at which the weight acted, and reduce the pressure on the friction-roller accordingly. A second roller might also be affixed on the front, at top, if considered desirable. It was suggested that a light wire-rope was preferable to a chain, as, in case of breaking, it did not fall with sufficient force to injure a tolerably strong bonnet; wire-rope, in falling, was observed not to fall straight down like a chain, but to take a corkscrew-form round the shaft.

It seemed to be very generally admitted by those present at the meeting, that the proportion of accidents now arising from the breakage of ropes was very small; that the strain on the rope was considerably less

when the men were going up and down than in the regular work of drawing coal, as the load, with the men, was only one-half or one-third—about 12 or 14 cwt. compared with 25 or 35 cwt. It was admitted by all, that any mode of diminishing the risk of accident to the men deserved the best attention; but it was observed, that unless the apparatus was really perfect, as well as simple, and not liable to get out of order, it would be better not to depend upon it, but to trust to the care of the men themselves. The use of a machine at all would, it was feared, have the effect of inducing less caution on their part, as they were but too apt to rely on any self-acting provision against accident, and to relax their vigilance and caution, instead of taking timely care to prevent its occurrence, by guarding against and removing the cause of danger.

Among the many projects that have appeared from time to time, there would seem to be scarcely any more feasible than that of the miners establishing independent reduction establishments, so that they might free themselves from the present thrall in which they are bound to the large smelting firms at Swansea. Although several well-defined plans have occasionally been brought before the public, yet none have ever been successfully carried out; and a general apprehension seems to exist, that with any hope of profit, to attempt such an undertaking a gigantic capital would be required. Some timorous alarmists have ventured to say that no less a sum than 1,000,000 sterling would be requisite; and even then, we are told, this would be inadequate to combat with the Swansea clique, if they showed a determined and combined opposition to any such free movement. That they would do so there can be no question. It is not to be expected that, having held so long the monopoly, they would tamely relinquish it, or allow any participation in their gains, without a severe struggle.

It has been argued that, owing to their large capital, they can command both miner and manufacturer, and if the least approach to independence was shown by either party, they could so coerce them, as to render all opposition nugatory, and their best efforts fruitless. It has been stated that the miner receives the value of his ore before it is converted into copper fit for sale; and that the manufacturer is allowed a long credit from the smelter. In the event of independent works being established, it has been averred that they could not pay the miners until they had realised the copper, and as credit is given to the manufacturer, some considerable period would elapse before the miner could receive the proceeds of the ore sold. As regards the manufacturers, rumour states that the generality of them must have accommodation, are deeply indebted to the present smelters, and if they dared purchase elsewhere, technically speaking, the "screw would be put on them." Whether this be correct or otherwise we are not in a position to affirm; our opinion leads us to believe it is so; and this conjecture we are forced to by the fact that, whether from want of union, paucity of capital, or other extraneous causes—despite the many attempts that have been made—the English mining interest were never able to carry out an object in which they all appear to have so great a stake. Clamours have been raised against the Swansea smelters, and facts proved, showing how defective and one-sided the present system is; yet the clique have held their ground, and laugh to scorn the puny endeavours which have been tried to dislodge them from their dictatorial throne.

That there is no want of capital in the country to carry out any legitimate adventure has been proved by the large amounts raised from the credulity of the public for the purposes of working gold mines in Australia and California, and several copper mines have lately expended large sums for the purpose of developing gold in England; the amount of profit they will receive from the gold extracted yet remains to be seen. Some of the most sanguine of the gold discoverers, though they have ascertained in nearly every rock inspected by them the presence of gold, yet entertain great doubts whether it will pay for extraction. Even in California and Australia, where we are told it was cropping out to the surface, the quartz mining problem is not yet solved. The majority of experienced men who have a local knowledge of these auriferous veins are, however, of opinion that the gold mining companies established for the purpose of quartz crushing will be failures; on this subject there are, however, contrary theories, probably of equal weight, and until the question is more decidedly defined we will not presume to hazard any conjecture where it is difficult to decide—*audi alteram partem*.

One of the great objections raised against any mine having smelting works is the difficulty of purchasing rich foreign ores to flux the poorer British. To this is added the length of time requisite to convert the ore into merchantable copper, the not finding a market, and the probability that, if such were attempted, the Swansea smelters would lower the price of copper to such an extent, even though for a period it entailed a loss on their establishments, that not only the works opposed to them would suffer, but likewise the mining interest generally, more especially those concerns where the ores were of a low per centage. There possibly might be some trouble at first in procuring foreign ores; in many countries, where they can do so, they have commenced erecting smelting establishments, and have found that more profitable than bringing their produce to South Wales. Works have been established in Hamburg solely for the purpose of smelting South American ores, and have already detached a considerable portion of the trade from the port of Swansea. With respect to the lowering the price of copper, so as to sell it beneath its value, we regard it as a chimerical idea, and even if it were attempted this evil would soon find its cure.

At present we are told that the smelter, for every 20 cwt. of ore he buys receives 21; to this must be added the profit of the assay, and, from tables, we are led to believe that the gains on every ton of ore are at least 10 to 15 per cent. According to careful estimates, a reverberatory furnace, capable of smelting 30 tons of ore per week, costs about 1144, four of these, allowing for wear and tear, and the time they were out and in repair, could reduce 100 tons per week, or 5200 tons per annum, or, in round numbers, 5000 tons. If to these are added a calciner, metal furnace, roaster, and refinery, capable of turning out 3 tons per diem when lighted, it will be seen that the erection of the furnaces, the heaviest item, will cost about 10000; the expenses of the necessary buildings would depend upon the site, and the facilities it afforded for receiving coal and shipping copper. The Alten Works for some time found a market for their copper in France, and we believe for several years past have had no difficulty in disposing of it in this country; the price they pay for coals is more than treble that at Swansea, the same may be said of the Hamburg Works, yet they work both to a profit, though not able to keep their refineries continuous. In making these observations, we by no means wish to place the two interests in antagonism, we merely point out to those enterprising capitalists who appear to have lost some of their faith in gold, that legitimate adventure may be found in copper smelting, which they may more easily control at home than distant operations abroad. If the calculations given by us are authentic, and we have no doubt they are correct, being compiled from practical sources, and illustrated by proofs, as shown in the case of the Hamburg, Alten, and other foreign works, it will be seen that copper smelting is not so difficult an enterprise as imagined, nor the capital required to try the experiment successfully of so large an amount. In more than one of the dubious schemes we have alluded to there has been more money wastefully expended than could have proved whether it would not have been more profitable to the miner and the manufacturer to have transacted their business without the intervention of the middle man, who makes a profit of both, and injures the consumer by creating a sliding scale for goods he does not produce.

**ASTRONOMICAL OBSERVATIONS IN A COAL-PIT.**—Prof. Airey, the Astronomer-Royal, has paid a visit to the colliery district of the Tyne, in pursuit of curious and important astronomical observations. For that purpose he was taken by Mr. J. Mather, a scientific gentleman belonging to South Shields, down Horton pit, the deepest in the Tyne, 1900 ft. deep, to examine if it were possible to make arrangements in it for a series of delicate experiments and observations in reference to the pendulum, and the earth's action upon it there, simultaneously with similar ones on the surface, with a view to determine the weight of the earth and planets. Mr. Anderson, and the other proprietors and officers of this splendid mine, gave every facility to the Astronomer-Royal, and tendered not only the use of the mine, but their own personal services, for any future occasion. Everything at present looks encouraging for these important scientific experiments.

**IMPORTANT TO MINE AGENTS.**—Charles Lane, agent to Mr. W. F. Fryer's Hatherton Colliery, was summoned by Mr. Thomas Wynne, Government Inspector of Mines, for neglecting, in pursuance of the requirements of the Act, to report to one of her Majesty's principal Secretaries of State an accident that occurred in a mine under his control, and by which a man had been killed, on the 10th of July last. Mr. Wynne stated that Mr. Lane having acknowledged his error, he was not disposed to press for a conviction; under these circumstances no evidence was offered, and the case was disposed of by the defendant paying the expenses. It should, however, be generally known that the lowest penalty the magistrates can inflict in such cases is 10s.

**ANTIMONY SHOT.**—The announcement made in our last Journal, under this head, having attracted considerable public attention, we have been requested by many of our readers to publish some additional information upon the subject; but, as our informant is not yet in possession of the necessary details, we must postpone its further consideration until next week.

## STOCK, MINING, AND RAILWAY SHARES IN IRELAND.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT IN DUBLIN.)

AUG. 11.—Before treating on our operations here, I will, with the view of directing the attention of the capitalist embarked in mining pursuits, at once note our sales of the past week, and those which are already announced to follow them at the next Swansea ticketing. I will give you the returns as they appear in your last Journal:—

	Tons.	Average price.	Produce.
Berehaven	323	£10 8 10	£3393 6 8
Knockmahon	144	9 2 6	1330 1 6
Ballymurtagh	94	8 3 7	787 0 8
Lackamore	36	9 2 2	334 19 0
Hollyford	50	17 13 2	863 14 0
Cooheen	45	20 2 3	905 11 0
	710	£10 9 3	£7420 11 0

Now, in addition to this, we have for sale next week (16th) 268 tons from Knockmahon, which, at the average of the last sale, will yield 2430l.; Berehaven, 222 tons (say) 2315l.; and Ballymurtagh, 11 tons. Now, I do think, with these returns from public ticketing, having no reference to private sales, our sulphur produce, or lead to the Dees, that your readers must admit Ireland deserves more attention than the fraudulent schemes of gold discoveries. We are honestly disposed—we want capital, and we want mining industry, which can only be attained by the introduction of English enterprise. I mean honest enterprise—I want none of your Cornhill or other schemes, whether in the purlieus of Moorgate-street or King William-street. While on this same point, just allow me to observe, that there was to have been a meeting of the Cooheen Mining Company in your city on the 8th inst.; and I can only express my hope that not only will they have explained the past, but that they will be enabled to say a something of the present, leaving the future to develop itself as may be. You have also another meeting this week—of the Kenmare Mining Company; and I hope, as on the last occasion, that the directors will have had the managing agent over, to question him as to the state of the mine; while it is their duty—an office, I am afraid they cannot very satisfactorily perform—of showing to the proprietors on what principle they paid a dividend, when no profits were made, and which, as the accounts then presented show, proves that the expenditure was greater than the receipts, but which was abstracted from the capital. Let me ask, what position are they in at this moment, with their lower levels becoming more scarce for ore, with heavy cost for driving, with little or no balance, and with but little credit, as London managers, composed of lawyers and quidnuncs? How is it to be supposed mines are to be worked in Ireland? I repeat, we want honest English or Irish management; but most certain it is we want English capital; and every act would appear to have for its object the defeat of that measure, which would be so beneficial to the one and the other. There is another point with reference to this Kenmare Mining Company. In consequence of a dividend being declared, such was naturally assumed by the shareholders to have arisen from actual profits; and accordingly, as I am informed, on good authority, the collector of income tax very properly pounced upon the company, and saddled them with some 40l. or 50l. income tax, which, I presume, will be continued until they make a further dividend, while the commissioners will make no allowance for a call. This in itself, with the present state of the exchequer, is a pleasant "sop." Query, will this be mooted at the meeting? Croker's shaft and the bottom level, I am informed, are very poor, and the ore now being put to pile of a very low produce. The Bandon Barytes Company will be the death of me, or I fear you will put a stop to my little interrogations and observations; but, in truth, it involves a principle, and I am not how despicable may be the parties concerned—I will not allow Irish mines, or character and principle of Irishmen, to be prejudiced by your jobbers, whether they be solicitors or agents else. The writer of the letter, signed "A Holder of 250 Shares," in your Journal of last week, I think, is somewhat wrong in the assertion made. No doubt "the wish was father to the thought." I said the shares had been done at 100 per cent. premium; while it appears that only one-seventh of the shares were issued. How is this? I would ask—is the writer one of the vendors? Why do not the solicitors—who are, I understand, repudiated and thrown overboard, or perhaps they may, for aught I know, have thrown over the others—let us have a fair explanation? The Stock Exchange will not, of course, recognise them with only one-seventh capital paid. Is not this, then, a case taken away from Capel-court, to go to the Criminal Court, for conspiracy to defraud? I believe some of the parties are not worth being brought into a civil court; but one of another nature would well justify the expenditure incurred. I will not dwell on this, as it was sufficient for me to expose the abuse. Let those who have suffered adopt what course they think fit. As to your report of the meeting of the Carbery West Mining Company, I find there are more innocents who appear to have been "inoculated" by the sweet voices of "Peter" and the apostles. Time will show. The letter of "An Enemy to Misrepresentation," treating on mining speculation in Ireland, whether he possesses perfect knowledge or not, would appear to write from report, the Audley Mines having, as he says, been taken up by a man of experience in mining adventures. Now, Sir, one word for Ireland, and another for the man of experience. To say naught of Irish products, the man of experience will be found to have become bankrupt some years since, after sacrificing some 250,000l. in Cornish mines, and paying 10 per cent. out of capital. He married a lady, whose trustees he humbugged; became purchaser of the minerals in the Audley property, at the sale under the Incumbered Estates, at some 7800l.; went to the mines; had his carriages, and his agents, whom he could not command, nor could they command themselves; laid out some 10,000l., as report goes. The mines were stopped; Messrs. Harvey, of Hayle, removed the engines—and this was another instance of London management of Irish mines. I believe the gentleman to whom I refer is well acquainted with the Bishop of London and other clericals; but whether they recognise him at this moment, or whether they are on intimate terms, I will not say.

With regard to mines generally, I may observe, from information I have acquired, that South Cork (Ballydehob) is reported to be very rich; and I can only hope that the promised returns may equal the expectations, and that the results may be realised. The new agent, I understand, considers this mine a second California. At Bandon Barytes, the works are suspended. At Cooheen, I learn that the shafts are sinking, but no ore raising; cross-cuts are in course of driving, and no lodes intersected. Capt. Skimming is about to revisit the mine, in order to point out to the newly-appointed agent the "vast masses of copper ore" which he saw in the mine a few months since, and which, there can be no doubt, the directors are most anxious to get out. The ore, I should observe, is of first-rate quality, what there is of it. Dhurode continues "very rich," and the shipment of ore increased to 14 tons. Mizen Head is in statu quo. At Brow Head, the lode split into branches, and also the staff. At Carbery West Silver and Copper, the Chief Constant lode is most inconsistent, and, despite all remonstrance, will not yield any ore; of the other lode, the less said the better. Irish Consols are pursuing the "even tenor of their way." Crookhaven is quiet, but little doing. At Kenmare, things are looking queer; the ore seems falling off in quantity and produce, and the bottom level, they say, is poor. Lansdowne looks well, and has 100 tons of silver-lead ore ready for shipment. So I have heard for some time, and so reported, but the quantity does not seem to increase; although no ores have been sold, yet the reports are highly (or so said to be) satisfactory. Some promising lodes of copper and lead, as I before mentioned, are said to have been discovered at the Trinity Mines, but reports are now like angels' visits—"few and far between." The Riverside and Cromwell Fort Copper Mines have been recently taken up, and so have many others. I can only hope that they are not under London management, and that the shareholders will not be taken in.

P.S. Since writing you, I have seen one of the prospectuses of the Barytes Company of Ireland, from which it appears that it is identical with the Bandon Barytes Company, and that the consideration, as purchase-money, is only 6000l., or two-fifths of the proposed capital, while with all the manoeuvres practised in the first essay, only 3000 shares were taken up. It seems very strange that a new company should be formed, that such a sum should be given for a concern, the cost on which, during the three months the thing was worked, not exceeding 250l. or 300l., while, if I mistake not, from a letter received by this morning's post, the projectors, and parties interested in the disposal of the mines to the defunct company, are interested in that attempted to be formed. When will bubbles cease; and when, to use a hackneyed phrase, may we calculate on justice for Ireland? The committee refer to the nature of this arrangement as testifying the favourable opinion the vendors entertain of the prospects of the undertaking. Very good this—so that a company which could not raise beyond 3000l. capital, now dispose of their interest

for 6000l., "as testifying the favourable opinion the vendors entertain." We are told "a deputation visited the mines, and remained some weeks, in order to make themselves perfectly acquainted with every detail." May I be allowed to ask whether this deputation is not the one under the *ancien regime*, prior to the transfer of the property. It would appear, that when the works are in full operation 1000 tons per month can be raised, which would yield a profit of 6000l. a year, while at the present moment 800 tons are on hand, which "will in a very short time be disposed of." On referring to your Journal of the 8th April, I find a paragraph stating that the barytes raising was worth 7l. 7s. per ton, whereas now it is stated to be worth 17. 10s. I presume you had authority for the notification at the time. It would appear, if there be any credence to be reposed in the prospectus, "that the number of shares to be allotted to the public is necessarily somewhat limited." May I be allowed to enquire how many shares have been transferred from the old to the new concern; how much money has been refunded to the allottees, and who are the bankers of the company; what the balance in hand, and in whose names the account stands? The account-day, yesterday, passed over quietly; indeed, the transactions have been very limited compared with days gone by. The last prices are—3 per Centa, 92½; ditto for account, 92½; 3½ per Centa, 93 92½; for account, 93. General Mining Company for Ireland, 24; Lackamore, 4; Mining Company of Ireland, 16; Wicklow, 51. The adjourned meeting of the General Mining Company for Ireland is to come off on Tuesday next.

## THE IRON AND METAL TRADES OF SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT IN BIRMINGHAM.)

AUG. 10.—There has been a lull in the commercial and manufacturing transactions of the past week, and the trade report must be necessarily very limited. The assizes in Warwickshire and Staffordshire have been holden, and, as usual, have engrossed much public attention, and engaged the attendance of many merchants, manufacturers, and others, as jurors, grand jurors, plaintiffs, defendants, witnesses, &c.; sufficient, however, appears from the returns which I have received from the district to indicate a continuance of prosperity in the Iron and Coal Trades, and I am glad to add, of good sense on the part of the operatives. The fears entertained last week, that the puddlers and coal miners would force matters to a lock-out on the part of the masters, have been removed. The men, I believe, have abandoned the threatened strike, and the works are progressing as usual with the execution of the orders, of which there is no scarcity. The last arrivals from America brought some large orders for rails, and there is little difficulty in obtaining the recent advance, although it is well known, and generally admitted on all hands, that the small manufacturers feel the difficulty of realising the advance upon their goods, and many articles are being sold at a nominal profit. The demand, however, for foreign lines, the enormous quantity of iron required for the purposes of the war, in almost every conceivable shape and form, and the immense variety of uses to which it is now being applied for domestic and general manufacturing purposes, renders the demand above the supply, and overrides all local and partial interests. The demand for ironstone still continues excessive, and pig-iron, of course, is realising from 6l. 6s. to 6l. 10s., with many thanks for delivery at those figures. In consequence of the scarcity of ironstone in this district, increased efforts are being made in all directions to procure it, and a new company is announced to-day for the purpose of working some extensive mines on the estates of Lord Palmerston and the Rev. R. H. Cox. The object of the company is stated to be for the smelting and selling the ironstone on the above estates, situate in the parish of Dutton, near Northampton. The yield is said to be inexhaustible, and of good quality, and the proprietary holds out decided advantages to the shareholders. Of the quantity there can be little doubt, but the quality has yet to be fully tested. There has been a good deal of rather inferior stone obtained in the same county, but this may turn out an exception, and if so, will no doubt become an advantageous undertaking. The demand is abundant, and there will not be the drawback of long carriage, which has operated against the introduction of Scotch and Welsh stone, of which I have seen some excellent specimens ineffectually offered in this market.

In the Copper and Tin Trades there has not been any change since my last. The demand has been rather below the average at some of the houses, and the tendency in prices, if any, is downward; no reduction, however, has been declared. The manufacturers who have entered for the Paris Exhibition are continuing their preparations with great activity, and I have no doubt, will make a display worthy of the toy shop of the world.

Exclusive of the activity occasioned by these preparations, the hands of Messrs. Winfield and Sons are engaged in the preparation of extensive orders in the general Brass Trade. At Messrs. Elkington's electro-plating manufactory the men are in full work; and at Messrs. Hardman and Co.'s works some large orders are in course of execution. From the stained-glass works of this firm they are now weekly turning out some admirable specimens of stained glass, a considerable portion of which is being used in the erection of new mansions, exclusive of large quantities for church purposes. At the works of Messrs. Chance this art is also being cultivated to considerable perfection, and many foreigners of taste and judgment are employed in the establishment. The Window-glass Trade is dull. The orders for the new Birmingham Railway Station and other great works having been completed, and the building trade, owing to the high price of iron and timber, having received a check, the demand for this kind of glass has fallen off very considerably.

In the heavy iron-works of the district, however, there is no cessation of orders. Messrs. Fox, Henderson, and Co., are actively employed. The tube works are in full time, and the celebrated Soho Works are also in full gear. At Wednesbury the hollow iron trade is brisk, although the high price of the raw material makes against the manufacturers.

The Lock-making at Darlaston is not quite so brisk as it has been, and the principal orders now in hand are for the American market. But, perhaps, there is none of the varied branches of the district in which greater activity has latterly prevailed than in the production of telegraph wire. The demand for this article has been enormous, and the tons of wire made here and shipped for all parts of the world is incredible.

In connection with the recent inventions, may be noticed one by Mr. B. L. Phillips, of Kennington-lane, London, and which that gentleman is getting tried in this town and neighbourhood. It is a new flux for metals and glass, which is applied in a liquid state to melted metals and glass, in the furnaces or cupolas, and has the effect of increasing their strength by the expulsion of impurities, and, consequently, rendering them more dense and solid in texture than is attainable by the ordinary methods employed. It has been submitted to many practical men in this town and neighbourhood, and they alone will be able to pronounce upon its utility. The inventor has already obtained several testimonials from respectable engineering firms in this district, which tend to show that the use of the flux increases to a considerable extent the strength of the iron. It is said that the tests employed were those of deflection and fracture by active means, and that the resistance proved the increased strength derived from the application of the invention.

## IRON AND COAL TRADES OF YORKSHIRE AND DERBYSHIRE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT IN CHESTERFIELD.)

AUGUST 12.—The Iron Trade has been very active during the week. The market for Scotch Pig has been very firm, with an upward tendency in consequence of the increase of foreign shipments. Orders, however, continue to arrive for manufactured iron, and, judging from those in process of execution, and the number remaining on hand, there appears every prospect of a brisk winter trade. Some interesting intelligence has been received here to-day from several firms in Australia, of the discovery of a better description of iron than has been hitherto imported into England from that country. Judging of the extent of its existence, it is reported to be of great value to the company by whom it was discovered. The source from whence this mineral is being obtained is called the Pitts Bay Iron Mines, at Mittagong, which have been for some time past worked with great success. Numerous experiments have been resorted to, in order to test the capabilities of the metal, with great success. Several blooms, averaging 1 cwt., were produced, and the gentlemen present were invited to name any process, and to see the metal subjected. After several minor experiments, such as bending and twisting the metal, &c., a bloom was inserted in the fire, and becoming red hot, was placed on an anvil, and beaten out to a point, in order to test its malleable qualities, and its power of expansion under the hammer, thrown by two men. The result was highly satisfactory, every fall telling upon the metal as though it had been copper, affording unmistakable proof of its malleability. A bloom in a cold state was then placed on the anvil, raised and supported at each

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**BRITANNIA FOUNDRY, LEEDS—PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT.**

**MR. WHEATLEY KIRK** is honoured with instructions from Messrs Ardill and Pickard, the eminent machine-makers, ironfounders, &c., to **PREPARE FOR SALE, BY AUCTION**, in the latter part of September next (in consequence of a dissolution of their partnership), on the premises of their works, called the Britannia Foundry, Armley-road, Leeds, the **WHOLE** of their exceedingly **VALUABLE** and **MODERN PLANT, TOOLS, MACHINERY, UTENSILS, STOCK IN TRADE**, &c., which are all in the best possible working condition. The particulars in future papers and descriptive catalogue, which will be prepared in due time, and may be had of the Clerk of the offices of the auctioneer, Cranstoun Chambers, Cross-street, Man-baker, and A. Kirkcaldie, Leeds.

**PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT.**  
**MR. WHEATLEY KIRK** is favoured with instructions from the Executors of the late **WILLIAM HALL, Esq.,** woolen manufacturer, dyer, machinist, &c., to **ARRANGE CATALOGUE and SELL, BY AUCTION,** early in the month of September next, on the premises of the Works, Irwell Mills, Broughton Bridge, Manchester, the **WHOLE of the truly VALUABLE PLANT, STOCK, FURNITURE, BOLLS, DYE VESSELS, UTENSILS, HYDRAULIC and SCREW PRESSES; PRINTING MACHINES, CALLENDERS, MANGLES; PAPER BOWLS, PRESS-PLATES, PRESS-PAPERS; TOOLS;** large quantity of **BRASS, COPPER, LEAD;** wrought and **CAST METAL; DRUGS, DYE WARES; TIE-BEES, HORSE, CARTS, &c.**—Full particulars in future Papers, and descriptive catalogues, which are being prepared, and may be had at the **WHEATLEY KIRK'S, 114, Market Lane.**

**CALLINGTON MINES.**

**MR. RENDELL** has been favoured with instructions to submit for **SALE, BY PUBLIC AUCTION, on Tuesday, the 29th of August inst., the CALLINGTON MINES, Cornwall, the undermentioned excellent MACHINERY and MATERIALS** (unless previously disposed of by private contract, of which due notice will be given):—*viz.*, A 90 in. cylinder PUMPING ENGINE, with 2 boiler each 12 tons, first piece of rod, powerful winch, and the wood work of the said engine house, included; 82 fms. of 13 in. red pine main rods, with strapping-plates and bolts to fit; 85 fms. 12 in. pumps, with 2 13 in. plungers, complete; iron work for a balance box, complete; a 40 ft. water-wheel, nearly new, 27 in. breast, with cast-iron rackets, and axle, to which is attached 24 heads of stamps, with cast-iron axle and gear work, all in prime working condition; a 25 ft. water-wheel, 20 in. breast, with a compact little crusher and 8 heads of stamps, with cast-iron axle and gear work, all in prime working condition; a 25 ft. water-wheel, 20 in. breast; a 12 ft. water-wheel, 20 in. breast; a 9 ft. water-wheel, 11 in. breast; a pair of Brunton's patent frames, with a large quantity of the same; capstan and screw; 11 in. capstan of Brunton's patent frames, with a large quantity of the same; iron, as good as new, a lot of short leaders, with iron staves; a variety of shod founders, plank, and other timber, with several smaller articles very useful for mining and other purposes.

The auctioneer begs to call the attention of mine agents and others to the above materials, the whole being in good condition and of the best description.—For viewing the same, apply to the agent, on the mine; and for further particulars, to M<sup>r</sup> WILLIAM WATSON, Well Park, Calstock. Refreshments on table by Eleven A.M., and the sale to commence precisely at Twelve o'clock.  
Callington Auction and Emigration Office, August 10, 1854.

**TO BE SOLD, BY PRIVATE TREATY, a LOCOMOTIVE ENGINE AND TENDER** (made by Jones and Potts), cylinder 12 in., stroke 20 in., has undergone a thorough repair not more than 12 months ago, and done very little work since.—Apply to **WHEATLEY KIRK and Co.**, Cross-street Chambers, Cross-street, Manchester.

**P**ORTES AND SENECHAS COAL MINES, NORTH BASIN OF ALAIS (GARD), TO BE SOLD, in one bidding, in the Chamber of Notaries Paris, on Tuesday, the 12th September, 1884. Area, 9 square kilom. and 8 hectares. The coal is of the first quality; the daily extraction is 500 tons, and can be easily increased to 1200 tons. Upset price, 2,500,000 fr.—Address to Messrs. BAUDIER and Co., 10, rue de Valenciennes, Paris.

**MINE FOR SALE.—WHEEL SOPHIA COPPER AND**

**THE SILVER-LAD MINE, LEZANT, CORNWALL, TO BE SOLD,** with or without the STEAM-ENGINE and MATERIALS on the mine.—Tenders for the purchase, or applications for particulars, of the property to be sent to Mr. DANIEL WARRINGTON, Milton Abbott; or to Mr. WILLIAM MILLER, solicitor, 1, Raymond-building, Gray's Inn. 124

**TO BE SOLD, BY PRIVATE CONTRACT,** all those valuable  
LEAD MINES, situated at Pontham, in the Manor of Groatgrington, in the  
parish of St. John's, and county of Northumberland, together with all the PLANT  
consisting of a powerful STEAM-ENGINE, and full set of PUMPS (in excellent  
condition), and other tools and implements, and also all the other accoutrements

Plans, sections, &c., of the mines may be seen, and all other particulars known, in application to Mr. THOMAS WEALEY, at Anick Cottage, near Hexham, who will send a person to show the mines, and receive offers for the same until the 1st day of September next.—Anick Cottage, August 3, 1854.

**TO COAL PROPRIETORS AND OTHERS.—VALUABLE**  
FIELD OF COAL AND CANNEL IN PARR, NEAR ST. HELEN'S, LAN-  
CASHIRE.—TO BE SOLD OR LEASED, BY PRIVATE TREATY, THE MINES OF  
COAL AND CANNEL under an estate in Parr, in the county of Lancaster, known

the MOUNT PLEASANT ESTATE, containing about 65 statute acres, belonging to the devisees of the late Mr. Charles Speakman, of Windle, brewer. The estate is situated on the banks of the Sankey Canal, and is intersected by the turnpike-road leading from St. Helen's to Newton and Bolton, and by the highway leading from St. Helen's to Burtonwood, and is distant about two miles from St. Helen's, and

Plana and information may be had of Mr. THOMAS OLIVER, solicitor, Old Jew

Chambers, of Messrs. CHRISTIE and Co., Staple Inn, London; and in the county of MIDDLESSEX, of Messrs. ANDRELL and HADDOCK, solicitors, St. Helen's, and Messrs. BROWN and CROOK, solicitors, Finsbury; and conditional agreement may be entered into with Messrs. ANDRELL and HADDOCK, St. Helen's.

THOMAS OLIVER, Old Jewry Chambers, London.

**TO COAL PROPRIETORS, CONTRACTORS, SINKERS, &c.**  
**TO BE SOLD, BY TENDER, on Thursday, the 24th day of August inst.,**  
 an excellent **HORIZONTAL HIGH-PRESSURE DOUBLE-POWERED STEAM-ENGINE**, of about 70-horse power, with three boilers and fittings, together with power for ball cranes and hoists, weights, with timber framing and other accessories.

By order,  
W. SATCHEL, Sec. to the said Company.

**TO IRONMAKERS AND OTHERS.—FOR SALE,** a PAIR of NON-CONDENSING STEAM-ENGINES, with boilers, made for a route

mill, but not now required by the party who ordered them. The engines are horizontal; diameter of cylinders 22 in., stroke 3 ft.; made very strong, upon cast-iron framing, and arranged to work at a high speed, with high-pressed steam, so as to require the heavy gearing usually attached to rolling-mill engines. These engines are well worthy the attention of ironmakers extending their works, as they are

remarkably simple construction and unusually strong, occupying very little space. The two steam boilers—cylindrical, with spherical ends, 5 ft. diameter, 50 ft. long, 1/2 in. plates—may be sold separately. The engines and boilers are made by Messrs. Neilson and Co., of Glasgow, and may be seen at their works. Also, a 24 in. **CONDIE'S PATENT STEAM HAMMER**, quite new.—Apply to Mr. James

**SOUTH EASTERN RAILWAY.—FOR SALE,** at Strood, near Rochester, Kent, a very superior PUMPING-ENGINE (by Beulton and Watts) of 40-horse power, 3 ft. 6 in. cylinder, 8 ft. stroke, 3 ft. 6 in. brass pump, with

Tenders must be lodged with the secretary on or before Thursday, the 21st inst.  
G. S. HERBERT, Sec.

TO BE SOLD, BY PRIVATE CONTRACT, A DOUBLE-POWER CONDENSING STEAM-ENGINE, with cylinder 30½ inches diameter, working a 4 feet stroke, fitted with nozzles, hollow stalk valves, front pipes, hand-gear, from condensing cylinder, wood engine beam, with parallel motion, hot and cold water pumps, iron castings, shaft, and condenser, with all the necessary tools.

ing down bolts, as at present fixed and in operation, and WINDING GEAR attached for winding from three pits; with a WROUGHT-IRON STEAM BOILER, 14 ft. diameter, with fire-door frames, bars, bearers, dead plates, damper, feed and pipes, connected with the engine. The above will be sold a bargain, in consequence of a larger engine being required, and can be delivered in the month of October next.

—It may be seen at work on application to Mr. H. McDonald, engineer, Colliery and Ironworks, Staffordshire Potteries.

**WORKING PLANT**, including a powerful **WATER-WHEEL** nearly new, pumps, rods, pulleys, going gear, blacksmiths' shops, sheds, drawing-rooms, &c., all in efficient state, and ready for work. Tim of the superior quality has been sold from mine, and, but for a small remainder, under the present proprietors, the works

at the present high price of tin, would be highly remunerative. The offer to sell *bona fide*, the terms are favourable, the parties respectable, and the mine will bear searching and scientific investigation.—Apply by letter, addressed "G. F. L." to the South American Coffee-house, Threadneedle-street, London.

**COAL AND IRONSTONE.—TO LET,** the PRESTON GRANGE COAL FIELD, which is intersected by the North British Railway, eight miles from Edinburgh, and has also an excellent shipping port on the Forth belonging to the property. The colliery is drained by very powerful engines; and there are THREE BEDS of COAL, capable of raising from 100 to 200 tons of coal daily.

Two of these beds have roofs of BALL IRONSTONE, of excellent quality, which has been largely exported. There is also a BED of BITUMINOUS IRONSTONE, from 9 to 16 inches thick, which has also been exported to a large extent.—Offers for a lease will be received by Sir GEORGE GRANT LUTHER, Bart., the proprietor, Freston Grange, Freston Park, N. E. But only from parties who intend to erect blast-furnaces.

1. The first step is to identify the problem or question that needs to be answered. This involves understanding the context and the specific requirements of the task.

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Shares.	Paid.	Last Price.	Present.	Shares.	Paid.	Last Price.	Present.
10000 Cwm Darren (lead), Cardiganah. 13s.	...	3	...	1034 Praed Con. (tin), Towednack	1 1/2	...	...

\* In accordance with an announcement to that effect, we have removed the prices from all mines in the above list where quotations have not been forwarded, or the price given confirmed, for a period of one month: we hope by that means to remove any difficulty,—that of purchasers or sellers being deceived by the quotation in the current Journal being represented as present value, although the price may have earlier been established since it first appeared. We hope, also, to bring the particular mine into more frequent communication with regard to any alteration in the present position or prospects of their respective adventures; and, we need hardly add, that we shall be happy to fill up all the blanks, on receipt of the quotation at which business has actually been transacted, guaranteed by the name and address of our correspondent.

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